

## Egyptian flags fly in Jerusalem on eve of historic Sadat visit

Israel has been waiting tensely and optimistically for the arrival today of President Sadat, whose visit may begin a new epoch in Middle East history. The Egyptian advance party was given an enthusiastic welcome when it flew into Tel Aviv yesterday: and there has been

pressure on the Government to make an open-handed political gesture to reward Mr Sadat for the personal and political risks he is acknowledged to be incurring. Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, is hoping to make a reciprocal visit to Cairo to keep the dialogue open

after the President returns on Monday. In Egypt Mr Sadat's initiative has aroused popular admiration although he still faces sharp criticism from some Cairo elements. Other Arab states have either denounced him or kept an unfriendly silence. (Report, page 5.)

## Denunciation by Iraq, Libya, Syria and Palestinians

From Moshe Brilliant  
Tel Aviv, Nov 18

Israel was agog today in anticipation of the arrival of President Sadat tomorrow on a mission viewed here as a possible dawn of a new era in Israel-Arab relations.

Shows and musical performances planned for tomorrow night were cancelled as entrepreneurs reckoned they could not hope to lure a vast audience to their television set during the arrival ceremony.

Many workers have notified their employers they are taking the day off on Sunday to follow the historic events on their television screens.

Some shops in Jerusalem displayed Egyptian and Israeli flags side by side in their windows today. A flag manufacturer said the Government had ordered 15,000 Egyptian flags but he was not sure he could produce them in time. Hundreds of Israeli and Arab in occupied areas had purchased flags privately, he said.

An advance party of 60 Egyptian officials and technicians was applauded by hundreds of airport employees this morning as they flew in to Ben Gurion airport from Cairo. The Egyptians were expressionless as they walked to the terminal building between rows of clapping Israelis and were taciturn when approached by reporters. Apparently they were under instructions to refrain from making statements.

Most of them were technicians, who later cooperated with their Israeli counterparts in arranging security communications and other services.

The party also included members of President Sadat's staff, who discussed arrangements and then took the Egyptian Boeing 737 back to Cairo in the afternoon to report to the President. A representative said the Israelis had met all President Sadat's wishes and they were satisfied.



Israeli troops guarding the Egyptian airliner that flew President Sadat's advance party to Tel Aviv yesterday.

Meanwhile in Jerusalem the Cabinet held an extraordinary meeting. Mr Begin told his colleagues what he proposed to tell his guest in his talks, as well as in his speech to the Knesset on Sunday.

However, the Government source acknowledged privately that Israel was under strong psychological pressure to reward President Sadat with an open-handed political gesture for the grave personal and political risks he is taking. Otherwise, it was reasoned, his

dramatic initiative could boomerang and lead to another war.

One astute commentator said Mr Begin will not make concessions during the visit but will do so later during the reciprocal visit he expects to make to Cairo.

The Egyptian advance party also brought word that President Sadat had accepted Mr Begin's suggestion that the two leaders should together visit Yad Vashem, the memorial to the Jewish victims of the Nazi

holocaust. In addition to praying at al-Aqsa mosque on the Temple Mount, the President also wishes to visit the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in the Old City.

Jerusalem: Mr Begin said in a radio interview that President Ceausescu of Romania had helped to arrange the visit by conveying his (Mr Begin's) suggestion for a meeting to President Sadat. — Agency France-Press.

Leading article, page 15

## Crowds at mosque hail President as hero

From Our Correspondent  
Cairo, Nov 18

An atmosphere of tense expectation prevailed here today as President Sadat prepared to leave tomorrow for Jerusalem on a peace mission which has stunned his friends and foes alike.

People walking in the streets of Cairo carried their transistor radios with them to keep informed of developments.

In Jerusalem, when the President went to a mosque for Friday's prayers, crowds packed the area near the mosque shouting, "We support you Sadat. May Allah be with you, hero of peace."

The President is making his historic journey unperturbed by opposition at home and in the Arab world.

Mr Ismail Fahmi, the Foreign Minister, and Mr Muhammad Riad, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, have both resigned, but Mr Sadat's visit has excited the admiration of the Cairo man-in-the-street.

A civil servant, Mr Muhammad Marzouk, said: "Sadat is brave and is seeking

peace. I pray to Allah he will succeed."

Mr Hussein Ali, a guard at a Cairo store, said: "I am willing to join Sadat's security men to guard him in his sacred mission."

A housewife, Mrs Samira Ibrahim, said: "The stakes are too high. Let's pray."

In a move to placate further opposition to Mr Sadat's mission, the Speaker of the Parliament will tomorrow hold a meeting with leaders of Egypt's three parties: the ruling Socialist Party, the right-wing Liberal Socialist Party and the left-wing Progressive Unionist Party.

The Socialist and Liberal Socialist parties have supported the visit to Israel, while the Progressive Unionist Party has opposed it.

The semi-official newspaper Al-Ahram today said that the President would take with him Mr Mamdouh Salem, the Prime Minister.

Cairo, Nov 18.—The Government shut down the Voice of a radio station run by the Palestine Liberation Organization, because it broadcast commentaries condemning the visit.—UPI.

Syrian mourning, page 5

## Embassies attacked in two cities

From Mario Mediano  
Athens, Nov 18

Eleven Arab students were injured tonight when Greek riot police intervened to evict demonstrators from the Egyptian Embassy here.

Sixty aliens, half of them Arabs, were rounded up. Police said 20 Arab students took advantage of a pre-election rally in neighbouring Constitution Square to shoot their way into the embassy as a protest against President Sadat's visit to Israel.

The protesters managed to penetrate into the embassy building where employees exchanged fire with them. Police used tear gas shortly before midnight and dislodged the intruders.

A bundle of leaflets signed by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine was found outside the embassy.

Beirut, Nov 18.—A man was killed and two other people were wounded in a rocket attack tonight on the Egyptian Embassy in Beirut.

Other explosions were heard after the attack, and gunfire echoed through parts of Beirut. —Reuters.

## Imaginative response by Mr Begin awaited

By Louis Heren

The decision of President Sadat to visit Israel is undoubtedly a dramatic and courageous gesture and Arab opinion in London hails the Israeli Prime Minister, the Israeli Prime Minister, will reciprocate.

They believe that the Egyptian President has put his life in danger. Palestinian terrorists are now almost certainly determined to assassinate him, and his political future in Egypt as well as in the Arab world depends upon what emerges from the visit.

The Arabs in London argue that it would not be enough for Mr Begin to visit Cairo. Instead, they suggest that Mr Begin should announce the intention to withdraw some troops from Egyptian territory, and propose that the extent of the withdrawal should be decided at a Geneva conference.

The suggestion would appear to be reasonable. Presumably Israel has no secret plan in store in Sinai indefinitely, and it is not expected to withdraw from Sharm el Sheikh in this instance.

It is also assumed that Israel would not want to see President Sadat assassinated or replaced by an extremist regime in Cairo. Either eventually would create more turmoil in the Middle East.

A partial withdrawal would, however, strengthen President Sadat's position in Egypt. Negotiations of the suggested withdrawal at Geneva could placate opinion in other Arab countries because it would not then be a bilateral act between Egypt and Israel.

This is seen to be important. President Sadat cannot afford to be isolated from the rest of the Arab world, and a Geneva agreement on a withdrawal could prevent that.

Arab sources said that President Sadat's initiative, if sensibly handled, could lead to a new and more promising phase in the Middle East. Jordan and Lebanon, if left alone, are seen to be ready to support him.

Syria, the other front line state, has expressed its displeasure, and the fear is that Israel will reciprocate imaginatively. President Assad of Syria could seek a new and disruptive alliance with Iraq and the Palestine Liberation Organization.

## Maintenance of council services aim of unchanged grant level

By Christopher Warman  
Local Government  
Correspondent

The Government announced yesterday a rate-support grant settlement for local authorities. It aims to restrict the percentage rise in average rate payments next year to single figures and to ensure that council services are maintained at their present level.

There is special help for Londoners and a "safety net" to prevent the grant for individual councils from falling too far in the settlement. It was described as "fair and not unfavourable" to local authorities by Mr Shore, Secretary of State for the Environment.

The settlement assumes a rate of inflation of all local authority costs in 1978-79 of about 9 per cent. That will stiffen the determination of local government to keep wage agreements made with the firemen and manual workers within the Government's guidelines.

The Association of County Councils commented that it was a London settlement, and said that outside London might be high rate increases or cuts in services.

Mr Shore told a press conference that last year the Government had been looking for cuts in local government spending. "This year we are not. Local government expenditure is now on a plateau. We want it to stay there in 1978-79."

The Government's proportion of grant has been maintained at this year's level of 61 per cent of expenditure. "As a result of this settlement," the Minister added, "I expect average domestic rate increases to be in the 5 to 6 per cent range. This settlement ensures that, overall, authorities should have no cause to cut back on services

to ratepayers or to levy large rate increases."

For 1978-79 total relevant Council spending has been fixed at £12,531m, compared with £11,717m in 1977-78. The Government's grant totals £7,544m, and to take account of inflation a maximum of £525m will be available to pay for extra costs. That is a cash limit in line with the Government's pay policy.

Mr Shore said the settlement "acknowledges that local authority expenditure is under control. I do not want local authorities to spend more than this settlement allows, nor do I want them to spend less."

The continued use of the regression analysis formula for the distribution of the funds reflects the Government's policy of concentrating resources in areas with the most pressing social and economic difficulties. Many of the cities with acute difficulties would benefit, and London's relative position would improve, Mr Shore said.

The average London domestic ratepayer paid £162 this year, he added, compared with £150 last year. His aim was to ensure that if all councils conformed to government guidelines the increase in the average rate bills of London domestic ratepayers would be the same as the average increase elsewhere.

To that end the amount of grant "clawed back" from London because of its high rate element will be reduced from £400m to £270m.

To achieve the balance he seeks, Mr Shore has introduced a "safety net" to limit loss of grant caused through the distribution formula. It means that

Continued on page 2, col 5

## A big hug can end that choking feeling

By John Roper  
Health Services Correspondent

After the kiss of life comes the hug of life. Doctors say it is an effective treatment for choking after the customary clump on the back or "fishing" for an obstruction in a victim's throat.

Dr Philip Lawson, commenting on the treatment in the current issue of the *Police Review*, as a new, simple and effective, says that choking is becoming more common. Doctors have named it the "manhouse syndrome".

In America it has become the sixth leading cause of sudden death and is often associated with eating steaks after having a lot to drink. There are usually contributory factors: victims often wear false teeth and are prone to gulp food.

So far it is rare in Britain, but Dr Lawson advises policemen, or anyone confronted with a victim of choking, to use Heimlich's hug, named after the American doctor who invented it. The instructions are as follows:

Grab the victim round the waist from behind; clench one fist with the thumb side towards the stomach and clasp it with the other hand. The fist should be above the navel and below the rib cage. Then give a sudden squeeze or hug, pushing the clenched fist as far as possible with a lifting, thrusting motion into the upper stomach. Squeeze, a fruit stone or even a pea will shoot out, if not at first certainly in response to repeated hugs.

The treatment can be given to a sitting victim or if he has fallen on the floor, provided the soft spot between the sides of the rib cage and above the navel has been found. Anyone so revived should see a doctor as soon as possible.

## Minister's hope of new success

By Our Political Editor

The October rise in the retail price index concealed the current "low rate" of inflation. Mr Hattersley, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said last night. The so-called "six-monthly annualized figure" was 3.9 per cent.

Mr Hattersley went further in remarks prepared for a party meeting at Devizes. "If we can continue to apply the measures that succeeded this year we can bring inflation down to single figures during the first half of next year and... we can go on reducing our inflation rate throughout 1978."

That is a bold promise, and one the Conservatives will seize on. They profess that the rate is now "gauging" and that after a brief dip into single figures it will rise again.

The Conservative attack last night was led by Sir Keith Joseph, who gave a warning of an "unemployment explosion". He said that would be the result of the Government's abandonment of the "false form" of a 10 per cent earnings guideline.

He explained that that in fact meant a 6 per cent average wage rise, and that it was "essential that if some groups get more, then other groups should get less."

Again deepening the change in Conservative theme that has emerged as public opinion appeared to be backing the striking firemen, he suggested that the police and the Army should get more, obtainable "from part of the economies elsewhere in the public sector."

It was absurd to hold down pay for an undermanned and underpaid essential service while countenancing pay claims at a norm, let alone above it, from loss-making, overmanned, and, therefore, in aggregate overpaid nationalized industries.

## Annual inflation rate falls to 14.1 per cent

By David Blake

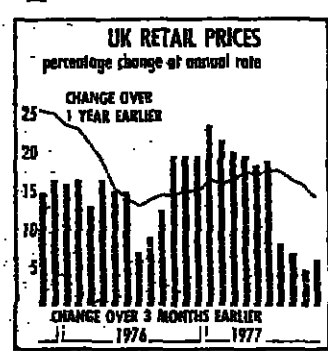
Retail prices rose only 0.4 per cent in October, bringing down the annual rate of inflation to 14.1 per cent, its lowest level since August last year.

The underlying rate of inflation, as measured by the change in the index for items excluding seasonal foods over the past six months, has broken through the barrier into single figures and stands at an annual rate of 9.9 per cent.

Mr Hesley, the Chancellor, now seems likely to achieve his goal of bringing the annual rate of inflation down to 12-13 per cent by the end of this year and, well into single figures by the early part of 1978.

When he says that depends, as Government ministers constantly remind everyone, on the way pay settlements develop over the coming months. The signs are not encouraging. Indeed, there is a widespread private feeling within the Government that the good performance on the price front is a slightly artificial lull between the inflation caused earlier this year by the fall in the value of the pound and the inflation that will be caused next year by the increase in wages. Many in Whitehall believe the increase will turn out at 15 per cent.

The great hope within the Government is that wage demands will be held down over the coming months because workers will be impressed by the remarkable deceleration in the inflation rate achieved during the two years of pay restraint.



The success is indeed remarkable. In the second quarter of 1975, just before phase one, the annual rate of inflation was 43 per cent compared with the previous three months: in October the equivalent figure was 9.8 per cent.

Britain is now running an inflation rate which is not greatly above the level of most of its major competitors in the industrial world. Wholesale price figures, which are a good forward indicator to the retail price index, point firmly

Continued on page 2, col 8

## Charges against Sir Hugh Fraser and five others

Sir Hugh Fraser, deputy chairman of Scottish and Universal Investments, and five other businessmen were charged yesterday in the Glasgow Sheriff Court that as directors they failed to give a true and fair view of the affairs of the company. The charges, under the Companies Act, are connected with the balance sheet for the year ending March 1975. Sir Hugh and two others are also charged over share deals.

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## 'Watchdog' for Civil Service pay unit

A "watchdog" body, whose members will include non-civil servants is to be set up to oversee the work of the reactivated Civil Service pay research unit which examines Civil Service posts with analogous jobs in the private sector.

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## S Africa detainee dies

The death of another South African police detainee was announced while legal arguments continued at the Pretoria inquest into the death of Steve Biko, the black consciousness leader.

Page 5

## £3m arts boost

A further £3m for the arts, to be spent mainly on repair and construction work at galleries and museums, was announced by Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

## Production showing signs of recovery

Economic activity in Britain seems to have started to pick up in October. Provisional government figures show that gross domestic product rose at an annual rate of almost 3 per cent in the third quarter. But the rise, if confirmed, comes after a long period of low output and does not restore economic activity to the level of last winter.

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## Congress for women

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## Hopes of fire peace dim as Rees talks fail

By Donald Macintyre  
Labour Reporter

The Government was left in direct conflict with the Fire Brigades Union last night after four hours of talks with Mr Rees, Home Secretary, failed to produce any hope of a settlement.

The Home Office talks began immediately after local authority employers and union leaders broke off negotiations on a future formula for firemen's pay.

Without a Cabinet initiative or a softening of the strikers' attitudes, "either of which seemed likely when talks ended yesterday, hopes for an early end to the strike appear to be at their lowest ebb since it began."

Both sides in the National Joint Council for the Fire Service reported to Mr Rees that there was no basis in present discussions for an end to the dispute. The union told Mr Rees that only a better immediate offer than 10 per cent would bring moves to end the strike.

Mr Terence Parry, the union's general secretary, said after the meeting that there had been no hint by Mr Rees of any shift in the Government's adherence to the 10 per cent guidelines.

The Home Office said last night that a fireman with five years' service would increase his gross weekly pay from £53.71 to £72.29 under the offer. Gross pay of a London fireman

receiving a special allowance would rise to £80.67.

The executive of the National Association of Fire Officers yesterday rejected by a 4-1 majority a proposal that they should strike in support of the firemen. But the executive agreed that association members should not cross picket lines at fire stations.

Christopher Walker writes from Belfast: The fleet of 15 "Green Goddess" fire engines sent to Northern Ireland to cope with the firemen's strike is to be doubled by the weekend.

The Government has also ordered the special unit. The 1st Royal Regiment of Fusiliers, stationed near Cambridge, to be on standby to fly to Ulster.

Army fire-fighters last night tackled two fires in Antrim Road, Belfast.

The more serious was caused by a parcel bomb which destroyed the premises of a leading advertising agency. Before the Army fire-fighters could bring the fire under control it spread to two adjoining buildings which were also destroyed.

The Army said that a booby-trap of four mortar bombs and a detonator had been set close to a waste yard near an earlier fire at a plumber's yard in Belfast. The device was defused.

Breathing gear "risk", page 2  
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سازمان اطلاعات







annual rate of inflation continues to fall

Continued from page 1  
to a further decline in the short term.  
The Government has said that if earnings could be held to 10 per cent, inflation would be down to the end of next year. At that time it is expected that the rate of inflation will be around 10 per cent. The rate of inflation is much above 15 per cent at present.  
Prices in October were favourably influenced by a large cut in the cost of the winter, mortgage, and the price of seasonal goods. The price of seasonal goods fell by 5 per cent, the price of food by 3 per cent, and the price of fuel by 2 per cent. The price of clothing fell 0.5 per cent.  
The increase in prices of the main items was widely expected, and the cost of a basket of goods rose 2.1 per cent.  
Although the decline in the rate of inflation is welcomed, the Government has said that it is not yet clear whether the price of seasonal goods will fall enough to bring the rate of inflation down to 10 per cent. The Government has said that it will continue to monitor the situation closely.

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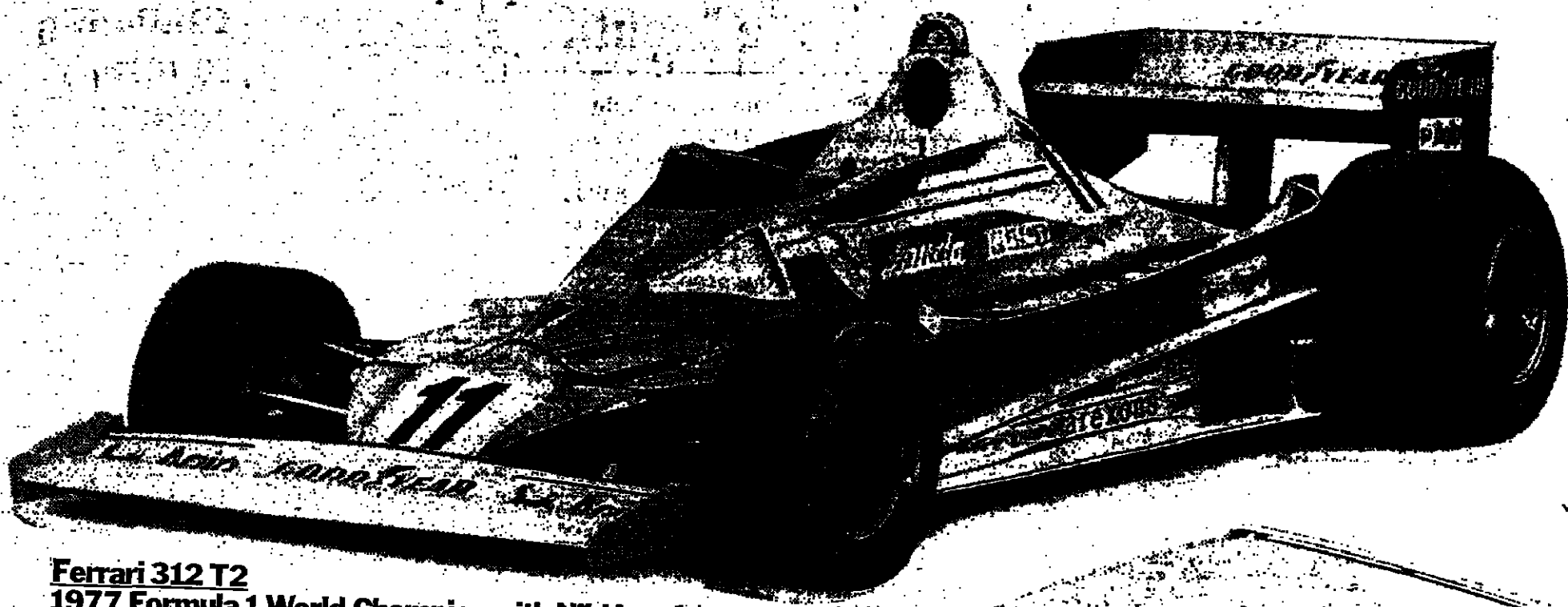
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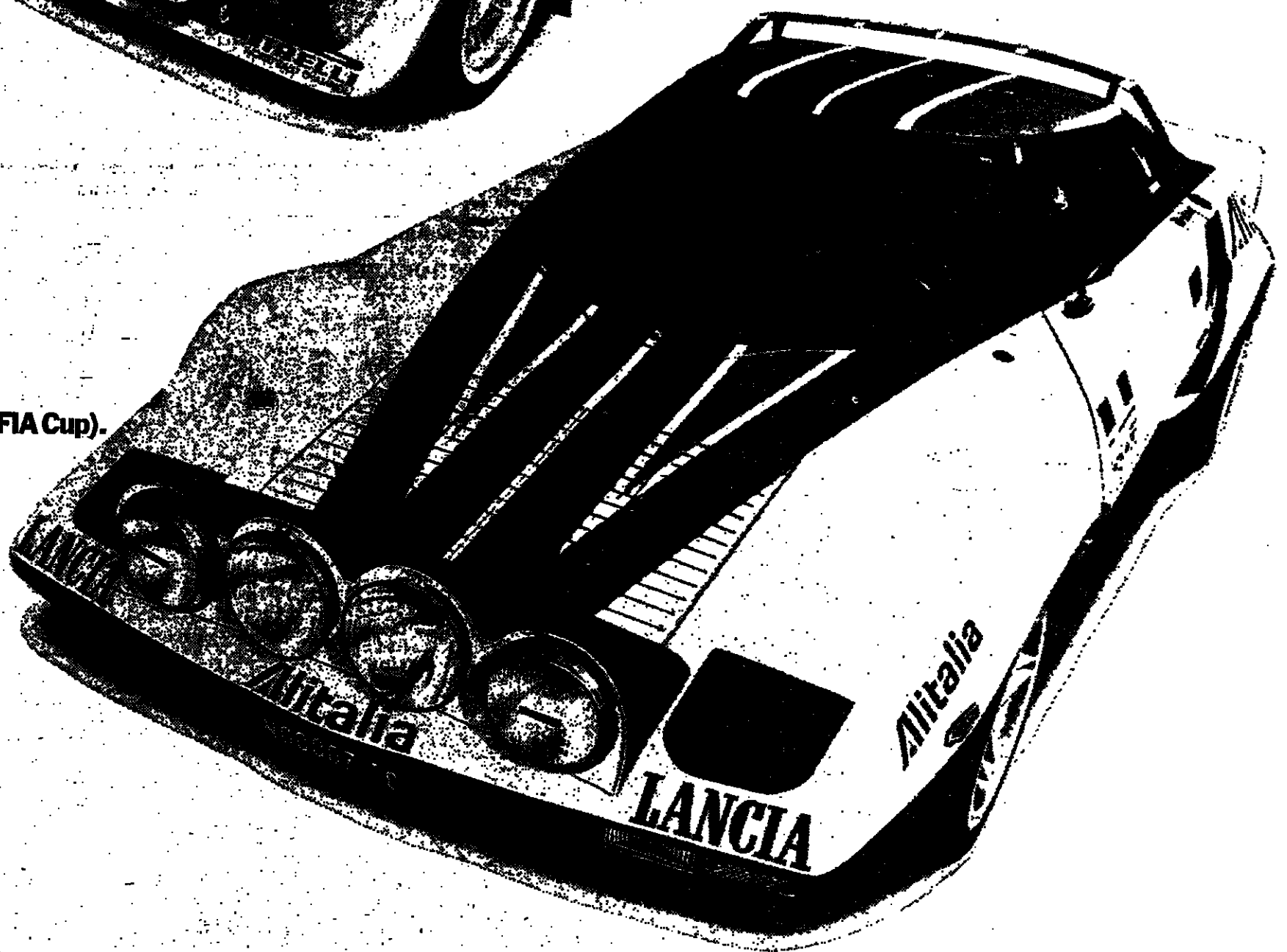
Yesterday



**Ferrari 312 T2**  
1977 Formula 1 World Champion with Niki Lauda.  
World Champions 22 times:  
8 times Formula 1 Championship  
14 times Manufacturers' Championship.



**Fiat Mirafiori Abarth**  
1977 Winners World Rally Championship for Makes.



**Lancia Stratos Alitalia**  
1977 Rally Championship for drivers (FIA Cup).  
Current Position:  
1st Sandro Munari/Piero Sodano.  
1977 European Rally Championship:  
1st Bernard Darniche/Alain Mahé.  
1977 Italian Rally Championship:  
1st Mauro Pregliasco/Vittorio Reiso.

## Ferrari, Fiat and Lancia. Three different cars with one thing in common.

Ferrari, Fiat and Lancia. Three different types of car with one thing in common: their sporting pedigree.

Fiat won its first sporting event in 1900, Lancia in 1909 and Ferrari in 1947. This year's victories make the list of successes even more impressive.

A major reason for this success is that the Fiat Group uses its own

engineers - a degree of involvement that no other company can boast.

Engineers who have the highest technical qualifications, wide international experience and the backing of the expertise and financial resources of the Fiat Group. The interchange of ideas between engineers at Ferrari, Fiat and Lancia has made these three

cars winners in their respective classes.

Engineers exchange information on the various models - from competition prototypes to production cars and from grand touring cars to economy cars.

Pooling the resources of the Fiat Group has made Ferrari, Fiat and Lancia three prestigious products from Italian industry.

**Ferrari FIAT LANCIA**

7 WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS HAVE BEEN WON BY CARS OF THE FIAT GROUP IN THE LAST FIVE YEARS.







No duty on councils to clear all roads of ice

Highways authorities have no duty to clear snow or ice from roads, the Court of Appeal has ruled today.

Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, said that the Highway Act, 1963, did not place on highway authorities any duty to clear snow or ice from roads.

The Act gave no power to highway authorities to clear snow or ice from roads, but it did give them power to clear snow or ice from footpaths.

If the authorities were to clear snow or ice from roads, they would be acting outside their powers, the court said.

The court had before it a case of a man who had been injured when he fell on a patch of snow on a footpath.

The man's family had brought an action against the highway authority for damages.

The court allowed the appeal and dismissed the action.

The court said that the highway authority was not liable for the injury.

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## WEST EUROPE

## Socialist vote limits scope of nuclear power in W Germany

From Patricia Clough, Hamburg, Nov 18

Under the pressure of widespread opposition to nuclear power stations, the Social Democratic Party congress has voted to limit nuclear energy to a maximum of 10 per cent of total electricity production.

The resolution adopted last night after a long and tough debate, demonstrated a growing tendency in West Germany to limit the role of nuclear power.

The resolution was a compromise designed to bridge the gap between the views of Herr Helmut Schmidt, the Chancellor, who felt himself bound to carry out the Government's nuclear energy programme, even against the wishes of his voters.

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## Dissidents at odds in Venice debate

From Peter Nichols, Rome, Nov 18

The first part of the Venice Biennale's adventurous journey into anti-Soviet dissent ended today with the closing of the strictly historical symposium which has served to show, if nothing else, that dissidents are a very mixed collection of people indeed.

One of the last and most striking statements came from Mr Leonid Plush, the Ukrainian mathematician, who said that President Brezhnev was a fascist at the head of a socialist state.

Mr Plush remains a Marxist despite his sufferings. He was clearly not impressed by the debate whether the Soviet Union could be regarded as socialist.

The reasoning of Mr Plush was more flexible than the opening report to the symposium made by Professor Leonid Kolokolov, the Polish philosopher now at Oxford University, who stated that communism from its inception was a totalitarian project.

Whatever its intrinsic qualities, the symposium did the door to indignation replies from members of the British and Italian communist parties who sought to argue that the founders of communism had had democratic intentions, and that a broader view should be taken than the Biennale was providing of the whole communist experience.

Another Polish exile, Mr Wlodzimierz Brus, was against regularising the communist parties present to declare their views on the socialist nature, or otherwise, of the Soviet Union. There was the temptation of rejecting what was subjectively distorted as non-socialist, and accepting as socialist only what was attractive. The important point was to assess what was happening.

Some of the organizers had been aware of the danger of a point of view at the inception. They were bothered by the Soviet intervention aimed at having the whole idea of a Biennale on the whole banned by the Government and denied funds. They felt to be sincere misgivings in East Europe about the objects of the Biennale.

With luck the Biennale may settle the doubts of remaining three weeks to reflect on fewer preconceptions the important subject which it has chosen to treat.

Organizational difficulties were inevitable because of the haste with which the Biennale was put together. There is the point, for instance, in showing examples of clandestine literature without catalogues which apparently are due to arrive later.

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## OVERSEAS



A welcome at Ben-Gurion airport, Tel Aviv, for Mr Hassan Kamel (left), director of Mr Sadat's Cabinet, who arrived yesterday to prepare for the President's visit.

## Syria proclaims a day of mourning and Libya threatens to boycott Egypt

By Our Foreign Staff

President Sadat of Egypt found himself virtually friendless in the Arab world yesterday after his decision to accept a formal invitation from Mr Begin, Prime Minister of Israel, to visit Israel and address its Parliament on Sunday.

At best Arab governments remained silent; at worst, they branded Mr Sadat a traitor. Some reactions were:

Tripoli: Libya will no longer recognize the Egyptian Government and call for its exclusion from the Arab League if President Sadat goes ahead with his visit, the People's General Congress said after a special sitting.

His decision was an "unbelievable shock" and an "unpardonable crime," said the post and future Arab generations. Even if Mr Sadat was able as a result of his visit to obtain a free and independent Palestine, the shame of using such a "humiliating" method would outweigh that gain.

It would be preferable for Palestine to remain occupied for ever rather than be soiled by such shame.

The congress said: "Libya would ask for Arab League headquarters to be moved from Cairo and would enforce boycott regulations against Egypt."

Syria declared Saturday a national day of mourning because of the visit. Tomorrow, coinciding with Sadat's visit to Israel, will be a day of general and national mourning in Syria to express the anger of the people against the visit, a government statement said.

It called on "progressive national forces throughout the Arab world" to observe the mourning period. All road traffic would be halted for five minutes throughout the country at midday as part of what it called a day of popular anger and anti-Arab mourning.

All businesses and shops would be closed, the statement said, and muezzins, who traditionally summon Muslims to prayer, would raise their voices in pain and anger.

The Palestine Liberation Organization called on Palestinians inside Israel to demonstrate and declare a general strike. Israel and the United States were trying to sow defeatism among the Arabs.

Mr Carter spoke on the telephone to Mr Begin, the Israeli Prime Minister, to exchange compliments. He congratulated him on his decision to accept the invitation to visit Israel and thanked him for his efforts to achieve peace.

The latest developments, after all followed directly from the effort begun by Dr Henry Kissinger, then Secretary of State, immediately after the war in October, 1973, and which the Americans had pursued steadfastly ever since.

An American congressional delegation, led by Mr James Wright, the Democratic leader in the House of Representatives, is visiting the Middle East.

They saw Mr Sadat in Cairo, where he assured them that he meant it when he said he would go to Israel. Then they went to Jerusalem, and were the first people to hear from Mr Begin that President Sadat had accepted his formal invitation, and would arrive tomorrow.

They were staying there to see the event. If all went reasonably well, as one observer here put it, they would be going to write Egypt's next day's news.

Mr Sadat had already been opened wide for Egypt, but these latest developments meant that Mr Sadat could ask for anything and for as much as he wanted. The Egyptian economy could absorb it.

Meanwhile, ordinary diplomacy continued, although Mr Sadat had changed all the rules. He had replaced the Prime Minister with Mr Sadat, and a Palestinian professor of English literature, at Columbia University, New York, who the Egyptians have suggested might represent the Palestinians at Geneva.

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## Another S African police detainee dies as Biko inquest continues

From Nicholas Ashford, Pretoria, Nov 18

Legal arguments and rulings on the admissibility of statements, including statements made by Mr James Kruger, the Minister of Justice, dominated the fifth day of the inquest into the death of Steve Biko, the South African black consciousness leader.

Mr M. J. Prins, the Transvaal Chief Magistrate, who is presiding over the inquest, ruled that statements made by Mr Kruger following Mr Biko's death on September 12 while in police custody were not admissible as evidence.

He later allowed counsel for the police, Mr P. R. Van Rooyen, to hand in written statements by two of Mr Biko's alleged accomplices. The police maintained that these statements were shown to Mr Biko while he was being questioned by Port Elizabeth security police causing him to go berserk and assault his interrogators.

The inquest has been called to determine how Mr Biko died and whether anyone was responsible. Mr Biko was 27 when he died, and had been in police custody for a year and a half while in police custody.

Today the death of another detainee, Mr Bonaventura Sipho, was raised. Sipho was a 28-year-old man who was held by the police in the cell where he was being held in Krugersdorp, near Johannesburg, in 1976. He was detained for questioning by the police last July.

When the hearing opened this morning Mr Prins ruled that statements made by Mr Kruger were irrelevant to the purposes of the court. He said it was impossible to see how the minister could assist the inquest in its purpose of ascertaining how Mr Biko died.

He also said that the minister's statements could only be considered as hearsay. "I therefore say that such remote hearsay of this nature cannot be tolerated in the tribunal of the nature and I therefore cannot allow it."

Yesterday counsel for the Biko family, Mr Sydney Kruger, said that Mr Kruger should be called to the stand to establish how he had come by incorrect information in his statements to the press.

Mr Kruger had said that Mr Biko had been on a hunger strike. Mr Kruger contended that the information could have only come from the head of the Eastern Cape security police, Colonel P. J. Gosses, and that as this indicated a "cover up" it was relevant to Colonel Gosses's credibility.

Mr Kruger later today had a private discussion with Brigadier C. F. Zietsman, head of the security police, to find out how the information about Mr Biko's supposed hunger strike could have reached the minister.

Counsel for the Biko family suffered a further setback during today's hearing when the magistrate declined to uphold an objection by Mr Kruttschnitt that handwritten statements by two of Mr Biko's colleagues should be admitted as evidence.

The statements, allegedly written by Mr Peter Jones and Mr Patrick Titi, were produced by Mr Van Rooyen in an attempt to prove that such documents had in fact been shown to Mr Biko during his interrogation. Earlier in the inquest Mr Prins had refused to accept similar typewritten statements as evidence on the ground that they were dated after Mr Biko's death.

Mr Van Rooyen submitted that when these documents were shown to Mr Biko he had refused to accept them. He said that the documents had been betrayed by his friends and this resulted in the struggle during which he could have sustained his fatal injury.

Mr Kruttschnitt opposed their admission on the grounds that as the two people who were supposed to have made the statements were currently detained under section 6 of the Terrorism Act they could not be called to give evidence. No access may be had to section 6 detainees, not even by a court of law. Mr Kruttschnitt maintained that this was the situation in the case of the two people who were supposed to have made the statements.

However, Mr Prins ruled that they were admissible as evidence of the fact that they existed, but their contents were not relevant. He later told the court he had decided not to release the contents of the statements for publication.

During today's hearing the court also heard evidence from a Port Elizabeth prison warden and from the security policeman who had been on duty when Mr Biko died. Mr Biko had been involved in his struggle with the police.

The warden, Mr Johan Fitcher, said that Mr Biko had consumed a bowl of Puzos (a traditional South African dish) and two glasses of water three days before his death. Mr Biko, he said, had wanted to kiss him for providing him with such refreshment. At all times Mr Biko had been in good health and he did not appear unsteady on his feet.

Lieutenant Winston Wilken denied that his rank had been used to interrogate Mr Biko during the night. He said his instructions were to let Mr Biko rest. He said Mr Biko had slept most of the time while he was on duty.

Mr Kruger to pay £2,000 damages to editor

Durban, Nov 18.—Mr James Kruger, the South African Justice Minister, today agreed to pay £2,000 (R2,180) damages plus costs, in settlement of a claim for wrongful arrest brought against him by Mr John O'Malley, former editor of the Durban *Daily News* and now editor of the *Argus*.

The claim arose out of the arrest of Mr O'Malley at a wine tasting ceremony in a Durban hotel on the evening of September 24, 1974, on a charge of contravening the Riotous Assemblies Act.

The charge related to publication of an article in the *Daily News* that day about a meeting of the National Union of South African Students, the Mozambique nationalist movement which has since formed the Government after independence.

Mr O'Malley was subsequently acquitted of the charge. In March 1975, Mr O'Malley lodged a Supreme Court action against Mr Kruger for wrongful arrest and damages for personal and ministerial capacities claiming 10,000 rand for wrongful arrest. The action was due to have begun here next Monday.

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JPX 10154

SPORT

Football



Hoddle (left) and Ward: a fresh incentive for youth at White Hart Lane.

Players left to spread the word

By Norman Fox  
Football Correspondent

In the coming three months of winter it will be difficult for Ron Greenwood, or his successor if an alternative is still considered necessary, to maintain the momentum begun by England against West Germany in Munich, is not until February 22 and there are no European club matches between next week and March. His proposal for a B international against the Netherlands is a possibility but for the time being the players involved in this week's victory are left to spread the word of optimism.

If this seems evangelical in tone, certainly there is a revivalist spirit at White Hart Lane after the defeat at Wembley after the players and players go back to their parishes remembering Mr Greenwood's words that the demand for success destroyed the heart of the game, it may not be possible to judge for several months.

The younger players will be watched with more than local interest. Now that Mr Greenwood has had the courage to employ a few of them against some of the most experienced and toughest professionals in the world, there is a fresh incentive. Today despite a programme that seems a shade undermanned, there is a chance

The fresh face at St James' Park

Bill McGarry, named yesterday as the successor to Richard Dinnis, believes that his 18-month absence from league football will help to keep Newcastle United in the first division. "People become too blinkered and dogmatic about things they think are right," Mr McGarry, who was released as the manager of the Saudi Arabian national side only a fortnight ago, said.

"My spell out of England has done me good. I am coming back refreshed and will take a wider, less biased, look at things. Also, I have a little more patience than I used to have," he added. Mr McGarry, 40, left his job with Wolverhampton Wanderers, where he was released at the end of the 1976 season.

Mr McGarry must overcome a formidable challenge if Newcastle are not to go the same way. They trail at the bottom, two points behind Leicester City and

No love lost when Fox brothers meet

Three previous winners of the John Player Trophy go into this weekend's Rugby League games with high hopes of reaching the lucrative semi-final round of the competition. Warrington, the winners in 1974, travel to Featherstone tomorrow and Bradford Northern, who succeeded Warrington as holders, are at Barrow today against Huddersfield, the second division.

Widnes, the winners in 1976, have a home tie with their neighbours, Wigan, tomorrow. In spite of the improved form of Huddersfield as they aim for promotion,

Weekend fixtures

<b>First division</b>	
Birmingham v Leicester	
Chelsea v Aston Villa	
Coventry v QPR	
Derby v West Ham	
Ipswich v Everton	
Leeds v Nottingham F	
Liverpool v Bristol C	
Manchester U v Norwich	
Middlesbrough v Wolves	
Newcastle v Arsenal	
West Brom v Manchester C	
<b>Scottish premier division</b>	
Ayr v Motherwell	
Celtic v Aberdeen	
Dundee U v Clydebank	
Birmingham v Partick Th	
Rangers v St Mirren	
<b>Scottish first division</b>	
Arbroath v Kilmarnock	
Dumfries v Dundee	
Kilmarnock v Partick Th	
Hamilton v Motherwell	
Queen of South v Airdrie	
St Johnstone v Hearts	
Stirling Albion v Airdrie	
<b>Second division</b>	
Blackburn v Mansfield	
Blackpool v Millwall	
Bristol R v Bolton	
Cardiff v Burnley	
Charlton v Sheffield U	
Fulham v Hull City	
Luton v Stoke	
Notts C v Sunderland	
Oldham v Southampton	
Orient v C Palace	
Tottenham H v Brighton	
<b>Third division</b>	
Bury v Chester (3.15)	
Chesham v Cambridge U (3.15)	
Exeter v Bradford City	
Lincoln v Preston NE	
Peterborough v Plymouth	
Poole v Barnet	
Port Vale v Tranmere	
Sheff Wed v Gillingham	
Shrewsbury v Carlisle	
Swindon v Rotherham	
Walsall v Oxford U	
Wrexham v Colchester	
<b>Fourth division</b>	
Barnet v Darlington	
Barnet v Swans	
Crewe v Grimsby	
Hull v Aldershot	
Hartlepool v Doncaster	
Northampton v Barnsley	
Reading v Huddersfield	
Southampton v Rochdale (3.15)	
Southend v Watford	
Southport v Newport	
Torquay v Stockport	
Wimbledon v York C	
<b>WRETHAM LEAGUE: Premier division</b>	
Albion R v Stenhousemuir	
Berwick v E Stirling	
Brechin v Clyde (2.0)	
Cowdenbeath v Forfar	
Falkirk v Dunfermline	
Meadowbank v Queen's Park	
Stranraer v Raith Rovers (2.15)	
<b>ARTHRUR LEAGUE: Old Edinburgh</b>	
Old Edinburgh v Old Glasgow	
Old Glasgow v Old Aberdeen	
Old Aberdeen v Old Dundee	
Old Dundee v Old Perth	
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SPORT

Racing

Bunker Hill should have too much class for even this talented field

By Michael Seely

Ascot and Newcastle stage significant events this afternoon. At Ascot Bunker Hill can be considered as one of Ireland's leading candidates for the Cheltenham Gold Cup. He is a 10-year-old gelding, trained by John Dunlop, who has won the Gold Cup twice. Bunker Hill is a dark bay gelding, bred by the late Lord de Vries, who was a successful breeder of racehorses. He was trained by John Dunlop, who has won the Gold Cup twice. Bunker Hill is a dark bay gelding, bred by the late Lord de Vries, who was a successful breeder of racehorses. He was trained by John Dunlop, who has won the Gold Cup twice.

Piggott to ride Exceller

New York. Nov 18.—Lester Piggott was a surprise choice today to ride Exceller in the \$200,000 turf classic at Aqueduct racetrack here tomorrow. Exceller, a 4-year-old colt, is a son of the champion sire, Secretariat. Piggott, who has won the Kentucky Derby, is a veteran rider. Exceller is a dark bay colt, bred by the late Lord de Vries, who was a successful breeder of racehorses. He was trained by John Dunlop, who has won the Gold Cup twice.

Warwick programme

(Television (IBA): 1.45, 2.15 and 2.45 races)

12.45 ESMOCT STEEPCHASE (Div 1: Novices: £696: 2m)

1.15 WILLERSEY HURDLE (Handicap: £416: 2m)

1.45 PANAMA CIGAR HURDLE (4-y-o: £1,360: 2m)

2.15 MANN'S STEEPCHASE (Handicap: £1,609: 3m 300yd)

2.45 JOE CORAL GOLDEN HURDLE (1154: 2m 5f)

3.45 ST MARY'S HURDLE (Handicap: £1,350: 2m)

Carson rides in Japan this weekend

Tokyo, Nov 18.—Five foreign jockeys, including Lester Piggott, will ride in the Japanese Cup at Tokyo Racecourse this weekend. Piggott is a veteran rider, who has won the Kentucky Derby. The Japanese Cup is one of the most important races in Japan. It is a 2000m race, open to all horses. The winner will receive a prize of \$1,000,000.

Ascot programme

(Television (BBC 1): 1.30, 2.0, 2.30 and 2.35 races)

1.0 AURELIUS HURDLE (3-y-o: £2,022: 2m)

1.30 RIE STEEPCHASE (Handicap: £1,662: 3m)

2.5 BLACK AND WHITE WHISKY HURDLE (Handicap: £3,130: 2m)

3.0 COMEDY OF ERRORS HURDLE (Novices: £972: 2m 120yd)

3.30 JAMES JACKMAN HURDLE (Handicap: £827: 2m)

4.0 FIGHTING FIFTH HURDLE (16,323: 2m 120yd)

Newcastle programme

(Television (IBA): 1.30, 2.0, 2.30 and 3.0 races)

1.0 VITTORIA STEEPCHASE (Novices: £898: 3m)

1.30 TOM CANTON HURDLE (Handicap: £883: 2m 120yd)

2.0 FIGHTING FIFTH HURDLE (16,323: 2m 120yd)

2.30 BUNKER HILL STEEPCHASE (Handicap: £1,350: 2m)

3.0 COMEDY OF ERRORS HURDLE (Novices: £972: 2m 120yd)

Ascot results

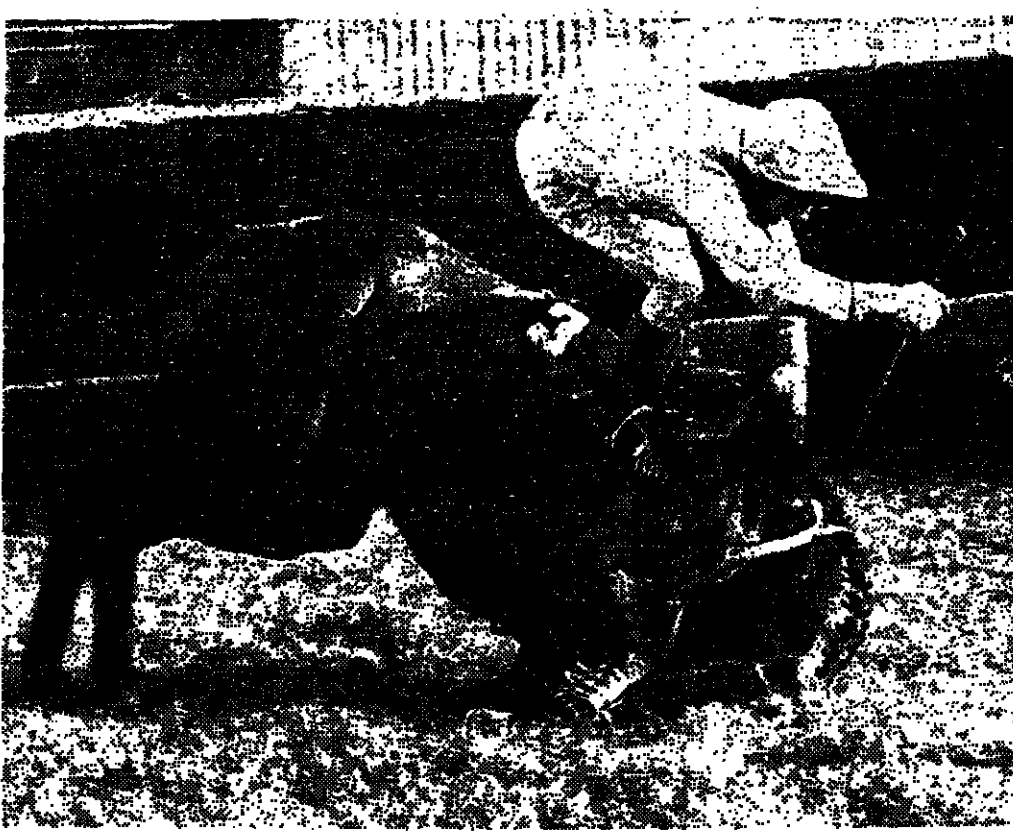
1.0 (1.04) BINGLEY HURDLE (Div 1: Novices: £1,178: 2m)

1.30 (1.30) RIE STEEPCHASE (Handicap: £1,662: 3m)

2.5 (2.5) BLACK AND WHITE WHISKY HURDLE (Handicap: £3,130: 2m)

3.0 (3.0) COMEDY OF ERRORS HURDLE (Novices: £972: 2m 120yd)

3.30 (3.30) JAMES JACKMAN HURDLE (Handicap: £827: 2m)



With victory in sight the strong favourite, Havans, ridden by Bob Davies, falls at the last fence in the Hurst Park Steeplechase at Ascot yesterday.

Midnight Court serves notice

By Michael Seely

The 1977 Cheltenham Gold Cup is a definite target for Midnight Court, a 10-year-old gelding, trained by John Dunlop. Midnight Court is a dark bay gelding, bred by the late Lord de Vries, who was a successful breeder of racehorses. He was trained by John Dunlop, who has won the Gold Cup twice. Midnight Court is a dark bay gelding, bred by the late Lord de Vries, who was a successful breeder of racehorses. He was trained by John Dunlop, who has won the Gold Cup twice.

Tennis

Lloyd takes handsome step into elite ranks

By Rex Bellamy

Tennis Correspondent

John Lloyd, of Essex, aged 23, took a further stride towards the front rank of the international tennis corps when he beat Brian Gottfried, 6-1, 6-2 in the four-man, sponsored by Benson and Hedges, at Wembley yesterday. Lloyd is a right-handed player, who has won several tournaments. He is a dark-haired man, who is 1.85m tall. He is a right-handed player, who has won several tournaments. He is a dark-haired man, who is 1.85m tall.

Airikkala the main threat to Ford's domination

By Peter Waymark

Motor racing

Pentti Airikkala, of Finland, seems the driver most likely to break the domination of the RAC rally, sponsored by Lombard, which starts from Wembley Stadium tomorrow. Airikkala is a 35-year-old driver, who has won several rallies. He is a Finnish driver, who has won several rallies. He is a 35-year-old driver, who has won several rallies.

Golf

January in joint lead

Sydney, Nov 18.—Foreign dominance of the Australian Open golf championship seemed likely to continue after 36 holes of this year's event. The lead is held by a joint lead of two players, who are both from Australia. They are both 20-year-olds, who have won several tournaments. They are both 20-year-olds, who have won several tournaments.

Tennis

SANTIAGO, Chile (AP)—Argentina's Guillermo Vilas, 23, won the Chilean Open tennis tournament here yesterday, 6-3, 6-4, over Chile's Jaime Yeste, 23. Vilas is a 1.85m tall player, who has won several tournaments. He is a right-handed player, who has won several tournaments.

Cricket

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—Australia's Ian Chappell, 30, won the Sheffield Shield cricket tournament here yesterday, 100 runs, over New Zealand's Ian Smith, 29. Chappell is a 1.85m tall player, who has won several tournaments. He is a right-handed batsman, who has won several tournaments.

Squash rackets

SQUASH RACKETS: World champion, J. H. Edwards, 30, won the World Squash Championships here yesterday, 3-0, over England's J. D. White, 29. Edwards is a 1.85m tall player, who has won several tournaments. He is a right-handed player, who has won several tournaments.

Ice hockey

ICE HOCKEY: National League's New York Rangers, 4, won the game here yesterday, 4-2, over the Philadelphia Flyers, 2. The Rangers are a 1.85m tall team, who have won several games. They are a right-handed team, who have won several games.



# Saturday Review

## The never-ending wrong by Katherine Anne Porter

For several years in the early 1920s when I was living part of the time in Mexico, on each return to New York I would follow again the strange history of the Italian emigrants Nicola Sacco a shoemaker, and Bartolomeo Vanzetti a fishmonger, who were accused of a most brutal hold-up of a payroll truck, with murder, in South Braintree, Massachusetts, in the early afternoon of April 15, 1920. They were tried before a Massachusetts court and condemned to death about 18 months later.

The case of Sacco and Vanzetti began obscurely and ended as one of the important striking points in the history of this country; not the cause, but the symptom of a change so deep and so sinister in the whole point of view and direction of this people as a nation that I for one am not competent to analyse it. I only know what happened by what has happened to us since, by remembering what we were, or what many of us believed we were, before. We were men, certainly then of a different cast of mind and feeling than we are now, or such a thing as the Sacco-Vanzetti protest could never have been brought about by any means; and I much doubt such a commotion could be roused again for any meritorious cause at all among us.

If there really was a South Braintree gang as it is claimed, to which two Anarchists belonged, it seems to have been a small affair operating under rather clumsy leadership; its real crime seems not to have been exactly robbery and murder, but political horseplay; they were Anarchists, it was said, who robbed and murdered to get funds for their organization—in this case, Anarchy—another variation on the Robin Hood myth.

Anarchy had been a word of fear in many countries for a long time, nowhere more so than in this one; nothing in that time, not even the word "Communism", struck such terror, anger and hatred into the popular mind; and nobody seemed to understand exactly what Anarchy as a political idea meant any more than they understood Communism.

On May 15, 1927, Nicola Sacco wrote from the prison in Charlestown, where he had been in and out of the death cell since July 1921, to his friend, "I am, dear friend, that if he [Governor Fuller of Massachusetts] have a chance he'll hang us, and it is no bad to see you and all the good friends who are optimistic while today we are facing the electric chair."

Bartolomeo Vanzetti, his fellow prisoner, wrote as early as 1924, after four years in prison under sentence of death, with a reprieve: "I am tired, tired, tired, I ask life to live like now, the least, I am not a hero, but a coward. He did consent to live on: he wished so dearly to live that he let his life be taken from him rather than take it himself. Yet near the end, he arrived apparently without help at a profound, painful understanding: 'When one has reason to despair and he despairs not, he may be more abnormal than if he would despair.'"

They were put to death in the electric chair at Charlestown Prison at midnight on August 23, 1927, a desolate dark midnight, a night for perpetual remembrance and mourning. I was one of the many hundreds who stood in anxious vigil watching the light in the prison tower, which we had been told would fall at the moment of death: it was a moment of strange heartbreak.

It is clear now that the condemned men understood and realized their predicament much better than any individual working with any organization devoted to their rescue. Their friends from a more fortunate destiny had confidence in their own power to get what they asked of their society, their government; courts were not sacrosanct, they could be mistaken; it was a civic duty now and then to protest their judgments, persuade them by one means or another to reverse their sentences. The two labouring men, who had managed to survive and scramble up a few steps from nearly the bottom level of life, knew well from the beginning that they had every



Top: Katherine Anne Porter protesting in 1924. Above: Vanzetti (second from right), and Sacco (third from right) on one of their daily trips back to jail from the Dedham courthouse.

reason to despair, they did not really trust these strangers from the upper world who furnished the judges and lawyers to the courts, the politicians to the offices, the faculties to the universities, who had all the money and the influence—why should they be turning against their own class to defend two labourers?

Sacco wrote to Gardner Jackson, member of an upper-middle-class family, rich enough and ardent enough to devote his means and his time to the Sacco-Vanzetti Defence Committee: "Although we are one heart, unfortunately we represent two opposite classes. What they may not have known—we can only hope they did not know—was that some of the groups apparently working for them, people of their own class in many cases, were using the occasion for communist propaganda and hoping only for their death as a political argument. I know this because I heard and saw. By chance and nothing else I was with a committee from the communist line of defence. The exact line is of no importance. It was a mere splinter group from the national, and world organization. It was quiet, discreet, at times the action seemed to be moving rather in circles; most of the volunteers, for we were all that, were no more communists than I was. A young man who did a lot of running about, on what errands I never tried to discover, expressed what most of us thought when we learned that we were working under communist direction: 'Well, what of it? If he's fighting on my side, I'll go with the Devil.'"

It was the popular view of talking and a point of view from a very small force of any clear view of issues: "It was only a kind of catchphrase, but a symptom of the confusion of the times, the loss and denial of standards, the scrambling of boundary lines, and the whole evil trend toward reducing everything human to the mud

of the lowest common denominator."

My group was headed by Rosa Baron, a dry, fanned little woman who wore thick-lensed spectacles over her blue, accusing eyes—a born whip hand, who talked an almost impenetrable jargon of party dogma. There were many such groups, for this demonstration had been organized and prepared for many years by the communists. They had not originated the protest, I believe, but had joined in and tried to take over, as their policy was, and is. Their presence created the same confusion, obfuscating the issue and obscuring the cause, as it always had done and as they intended it to do. It appeared in its true form and on its most disastrous side in Spain later.

They were well organized to promote disorder and to prevent any question ever being settled—but I had not then discovered this; I remarked to our communist leader that even then, at that time, I still hoped the lives of Sacco and Vanzetti might be saved and that they would be granted another trial. "Saved", she said, ringing a change on her favourite answer to political illiteracy, "who wants them, say? What earthly good would they do us alive?"

I was another of those bourgeois liberals who got in the way of serious business, yet we were needed, by the thousands if possible, for this great agitation must be made to appear to be a spontaneous uprising of the American people, and for practical reasons, the more non-communists the better. They were all sentimental bleeders, easily impressed.

Once on the picket line, I took a good look at the crowd moving slowly forward. I had been brought up in the fixed social belief that the whole police system existed to protect and defend me and all my kind. Without giving this theory any attention, I had found no reason to doubt it.

Dos Passos, Paxton Hibben, Michael Gold, Helen O'Lochlainn, James Rorty, Edna St. Vincent Millay, Willie Gropper, Grace Lumpkin, all very well known then and mostly favourably—most of them have vanished, and I wonder who but me is alive to remember them now? I have a strangely tender memory of them all, as well as the faces of strangers who were being led away by the police.

Each morning I left the hotel, walked into the blazing August sun, and dropped into the picket line before the State House; the police would allow us to march around once or twice then close in and make the arrests we invited; indeed, what else were we there for? My elbow was always taken quickly by the same mild little blond officer, day after day; he was very Irish, very patient, very tolerant, but with the whole uncomprehensible show. We always greeted each other politely. It was generally understood that the Pink Tea Squad, white cotton gloves and all, had been assigned to this job, well instructed that in no circumstance were they to forget themselves and whisk a lady with their truncheons, no matter how far she forgot herself in rudeness and contrariness. In fact, I never saw a lady—or a gentleman either—being rude to a policeman in that picket line, nor any act of rudeness from a single policeman. That sort of thing was to come later, from officers on different duty. The first time I was arrested, my policeman and I walked along, staring perplexed, questioning glances at each other; the gulf between us was fixed but not impassable; neither of us wished to deny that the other was a human, being, there was no natural hostility between us. I had been brought up in the fixed social belief that the whole police system existed to protect and defend me and all my kind. Without giving this theory any attention, I had found no reason to doubt it.

The picket line was crowded, anxious, and slow-moving. I reached the rounding point before I saw my policeman taking his place. I moved out and reached for his arm before we spoke. "You're late," I said, not in the least meaning to be funny. He astonished me by merely smiling. "Where have we got to hurry for?" he inquired, and my scalp shuddered—we moved on in silence.

This was August 23, the day set for the execution. In line at the desk, I said, "I expect this will be the last time you'll have to arrest me. You've been very kind and patient and I thank you."

I remember the blinded exhaustion of his face, its gray pallor with greenish shadows in it. He said "Thank you," and stood beside me at the desk while my name was written into the record once more. We did not speak or look at each other again, but as I followed the matron to a cell I saw him working his way slowly outward through the crowd.

The same plain, middle-aged, rather officious woman with a gold front tooth always came and put me in a cell and locked the door. Sometimes I was alone in the foggy light and stale air, being forbidden to smoke and wishing for something to read. Sometimes there would be other women, though never once a soul I knew, and we would begin at once to talk, to exchange our gossip and rumours and ideas, for, being in the dead centre of this disturbance, it was quite hard to find out what was really happening. After a time, usually two or three hours, the matron would come with her keys, open the door, and say "Come on out."

Out we would come, knowing that Mr. Edward James, Henry James's nephew, was there again, putting up our bail, getting us set free for the next round.

I have only to sort out and

copy these notes down here to realize how long 50 years are, not only in the life of an individual, but of a nation, a world—to realize again, not for the first time, how one sets out for a certain goal and ends at another, different, unforeseen, and too often dismaying. We need restored to us of course that blinded obscured third eye said once to exist in the top of the brain for our guidance. Lacking it we go skew-whiff in great numbers, especially those of us brought up so believably on Judeo-Greek-Christian ethics, prone to trust the good faith of our fellows, and therefore vulnerable to betrayal because of our virtues, such as they are; that is to say, our human weaknesses. There are many notes, saved almost at random these long past years, many by mere chance, they were scrambled together in a battered yellow envelope marked "Sacco-Vanzetti", and had worked their way to the bottom of many a basket of papers in many a change of houses, cities, and even a change of country.

They are my personal experiences of the whirlwinds of change that brought Lenin, Stalin, Mussolini, Franco, and Hitler crowded into one half a century or less; and my understanding of this event in Boston as one of the most portentous in the long death of the civilization made by Europeans in the Western world, in the millennial upheaval which brings always every possible change but one—the two nearly matched forces of human nature, the will to give life and the will to destroy it. So, at that time and after what I have learned since, it seems strange that I was not better informed at Boston about my committee until I arrived there and was seated at a typewriter copying the Sacco and Vanzetti letters to the world. However, I was not informed and I did not ask, and this is a story of what happened, not what should have been.

After more than half a long

lifetime, I find that any recollection, however vivid and lasting, must unavoidably be mixed with many afterthoughts. It is hard to remember anything perfectly straight, accurate, no matter whether it was painful or pleasant at that time. I find that I remember best just what I felt and thought about this event in its own time, in its inalterable setting; my impressions of this occasion remain fast, no matter how many reviews or recollections or how many afterthoughts have added themselves with the years. It is 50 years, very long ones, since Sacco and Vanzetti were put to death in Boston, executed and convicted of a bitter crime of which, it is still claimed, they may or may not have been guilty. I did not know then and I still do not know whether they were guilty (in spite of reading at this late day the learned, stupendous, deeply human work of attorney Herbert B. Ehrmann), but still I had my reasons for being there to protest the terrible penalty they were condemned to suffer, these reasons were of the heart, which I believe appears in these pages with emphasis. The core of this account of that fearful episode was written nearly a half-century ago, during the time in Boston and later; for years I refused to read, to talk, or listen, because I couldn't endure the memory—I wanted to escape from it. Some of the account was written at the scene of the tragedy itself and except for a word or two here and there in those early notes, where I have added a line in the hope of a clearer statement, it is unchanged in feeling and point of view. The evils prophesied by that crisis have all come true and are enormous in weight and variety.

A last, huge rally took place the night before the execution, with Rosa Sacco and Luigia Vanzetti, Vanzetti's sister, on the platform. Luigia had been brought from Italy and taken through Paris, where she had

been photographed as she was marched through the streets at the head of an enormous crowd—the gaunt, gridding figure of a middle-aged, plain woman who looked more like a prisoner herself than the leader of a public protest. Now they brought her forward with Mrs. Sacco and the two timid women faced the raging crowd, mostly Italians, who rose at them in savage sympathy, shouting, tears pouring down their faces, shaking their fists and calling childish phrases, their promises of revenge for their wrongs. "Never you mind, Rosina! You wait, Luigia! They'll pay, they'll pay! Don't be afraid!" "I'm Rosa Sacco spread her hands over her face, but Luigia Vanzetti stared stonily down into their distorted faces with a pure horror in her own. They screamed their violence at her in her own language, trying to hearten her, but she was not consoled. She was led away like a corpse walking. The crowd roared and cursed and wept and threatened. It was the most awesome, the most bitter scene I had ever witnessed.

After Mr. James had bailed us out for the last time, we returned to the hotel and got ready to go to the Charlestown Prison, where the execution was to take place at midnight. We walked on towards the prison, coming as near as we could, for the crowd was enormous and in the dim light silent, almost motionless, like crowds seen in a dream. I was never in that place but once, but I seem to remember it was a great open square with the crowd massed back from a centre the police worked constantly to keep clear. They were all mounted on fine horses and loaded with pistols and hand grenades and tear gas bombs. They galloped about, bearing down upon anybody who ventured out beyond the edge of the crowd, charging and then pulling their horses up short violently, so that they reared and their forehoofs beat in the air over a human head, but always swerving sharply and coming down on one of any living thing I have seen them in their stalls at home shudder all over at stepping on a stray, newly hatched chicken. I do not believe the police meant for the heads to strike and crush heads—it was just a very showy technique for intimidating and controlling a mob.

This was not a mob, however. It was a silent, intent assembly of citizens—of anxious people come to bear witness and to protest against the terrible wrong about to be committed, not only against the two men about to die, but against all of us, against our common humanity and our shared will to avert what we believed to be not merely a failure in the use of the instrument of law, an injustice committed through mere human weakness and misunderstanding, but a blindly arrogant, self-righteous determination not to be moved by any arguments, the obstinate assumption of the infallibility of a handful of men associated with the vanity of power and gone mad with wounded self-importance.

I cannot even now decide by my own evidence whether or not they were guilty of the crime for which they were put to death. They expressed in their letters many thoughts, if not always noble, at least elevated, exalted even. Their favour and human feelings gave the glow of life to the weary stock phrases of those writing about them, and we do know now, all of us, that the most appalling cruelties are committed by apparently virtuous governments in expectation of a great good to come, never learning that the evil done now is the sure destroyer of the expected good. Yet, no matter what, it was a terrible miscarriage of justice; it was a most reprehensible abuse of legal power, in their attempt to prove that the law is something to be enforced—not enforced—and that it is above the judgment of the people.

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This extract is adapted from *The Never Ending Wrong* by Katherine Anne Porter, which will be published by Secker & Warburg on December 5 at £2.90.







## THE ARTS

## Lohengrin

## Covent Garden

## William Mann

## For all but the most omnivorous, uncrickled Wagnerite, Lohengrin is one of the master's lesser works, importantly

chiefly as a transition from the early Wagner in *The Flying Dutchman* already an operacomposer of moment, towards the creator of *The Ring* and the other mature masterpieces

## from this fertile, searching, and not unexciting, early

## period. Lohengrin contains some fine music, notably in the

## second act, and a quantity of famous solos, much recorded in

## 78 days. The drama, when examined, is compelling: not so much

## the natural resentment of

## anymy (an Elsa of spirit needed no hints from Ortrud

## or Telramund to make her wonder who her mysterious

## bridegroom might be) as the struggle of Old Believers

## against popular emergent Christianity. In the pious

## climate of his day, Wagner

## could not extend the

## drama beyond the

## realm of the

## pious, but he

## personified it

## through Ortrud, whose malign

## vengeful plans are motivated

## by religious fanaticism, not

## personal spite. For producer, Covent Garden

## picked, Elijah Moshinsky,

## doubtless because something

## cheap and good was required,

## and Mr Moshinsky had already

## supplied just that, most

successfully, with his *Peter**Grimes*, a couple of years ago.

## It is almost sadistic to ask a

## producer to make a second silk

## pursue out of a saviour's ear,

## but Mr Moshinsky has done

## it again, perhaps even more

## successfully, inasmuch as

## Lohengrin is, of itself, less

cogent an opera than *Grimes*.

## Whether Mr Moshinsky pines

## to produce an opera with

## lavish, solid scenery, I do not

know. His version of *Lohengrin*

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## actually palatable and gripping

## just because he seems aware

## that, to put it bluntly, fore-

## ground is more important than

## background, properties, cos-

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## effect than bulky scenic sur-

## roundings.

This *Lohengrin* is played on

## an empty stage, given form

## and atmosphere with a few

## props, and relies carefully

## grouped masses of people (it is

## eminently a choral opera,

## though it must not look like a

## staged oratorio) sensitively lit,

## with the aid of scenes

## which are employed for drama-

## tic distancing, as at Lohengrin's

## arrival and final departure.

## The costumes contribute

## much, as when Ortrud and

## Telramund begin the second

## act spread on the dusty floor

## beneath voluminous black

## cloaks, or when the wedding

## procession moves towards the

## cathedral, the spouses in white

## and gold, like the King, backed

## by a wide cortège of attendants

## in black. The river Scheldt, in

## the audience, the swan per-

## fected on a glass; Lohengrin

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هكذا عند الاصل









Sultan Qaboos: determined to act as a buffer.

## The young Sultan's crusade to keep communism out

Few ceremonial occasions can have been as symbolic of a recent military defeat over communism as yesterday's pageantry in the steaming heat of Dhofar on the south-easterly tip of the Arabian peninsula.

The event being celebrated was the National Day of the Sultanate of Oman, the seventh since Sultan Qaboos bin Said seized power from his repressive and eccentric father and the first centred on the southern province of Dhofar since the defeat of Marxist guerrillas operating from bases across the border in South Yemen.

Trained at Sandhurst, a former officer in the Camerounians and a lover of Gilbert and Sullivan, Sultan Qaboos as 37 is the ruler of the last Arab state to have maintained an active British military presence. Although it has been sharply cut back this year, with the RAF pull-out from Masirah and the imminent departure of Royal Engineers completing a road-building project, Oman's expanding army, navy and air force will continue to have British commanders, and Arabic-speaking members of the SAS will remain until the New Year, training the Firqas.

These are a unique and colourful force of Dhofari hill tribesmen, the bulk of whom have been tempted by hard cash and a generous amnesty to defect from the revolutionary Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman.

### Three schools and no proper hospital

It was the final defeat of the PFLO in December, 1975, that gave Sultan Qaboos his greatest boost, and considerably increased his standing among the country's more wealthy and powerful neighbours, particularly Saudi Arabia. It came at a time when he was struggling to overcome the feudal legacy of his parsimonious father whose policies had kept Oman in the Middle Ages, more cut off from the outside world than any other country with the exception of Tibet.

Until 1970 its estimated population of one million had only three schools, no proper hospital, no electrical power and only five kilometres of tarmac road while transistors, cigarettes and even sun-cream were officially banned. All that has been changed as the result of a modernisation programme which has been in-

Christopher Walker

When John Masefield wrote "Ships and the sea, there's nothing finer made", he expressed what has inspired shipbuilders the world over for generations. Yet with few exceptions, like Nelson's Victory of 1765 at Portsmouth, and "Old Ironsides", the US frigate Constitution of 1787 in Boston navy yard, it is only in recent years that the importance of preserving historic craft has received proper attention.

In this country a great advance was made when the Maritime Trust was formed; but world-wide, nothing like enough is being done. Enthusiasm is growing, but money is still much more readily available for historic monuments ashore than for those representing sea history. Too many of these have already been lost, and ships being generally less durable than buildings, their number is diminishing year by year.

Our own record is not blameless. In 1949, for example, the Admiralty towed to sea the magnificent two-decker line-of-battle ship HMS *Revenge*, built as the French Duguay Trouin in 1789, and scuttled her off Spithead for the lack of £500,000 that would have preserved her, fully restored, for posterity.

Had a beautiful cathedral been demolished to save a similar sum, there would have been an outcry. Nevertheless, there are many cathedrals, but in all the world there was only one two-decker line-of-battle ship. Regardless of this, she was ruthlessly murdered.

In 1964, the Philippine

government presented to the United States the last surviving American built deep water sailing ship, the *Kaitani*, and this unique relic was accepted in Manila by President Johnson. Without money to retrieve her, she went to scrap merchants. Ten years later, all that remained was brought back in seven small pieces by the United States navy.

Gone for ever was the last hope that one day American shipbuilders might add to their heritage of squandered merchant sailing ships with one that had actually been built in their own country.

These tragedies would not have happened had world opinion been organized to protest. A historic ship in danger is like a person lying in the street after an accident. The need is for an ambulance to get him to hospital. Left in the street he is likely to die. I want to see an ambulance ser-

Frank Carr, former director of the National Maritime Museum, calls for an 'ambulance service' to rescue historic vessels

## The mighty ships that died in shame



The end of the Implacable, built in 1949 and scuttled by the Admiralty in 1949.

vice for historic craft in peril, in the form of a World Ship Trust to do for them what the World Life Fund is doing for living species.

No great sum would be needed initially; just enough to establish an office, with a secretary, and a fund from which advances could be made to enable ship preservation projects to get started. Its aims, however, should not be limited to financial assistance. I would like to see it build up a register of historic craft throughout the world worthy of preservation, and an archive of expertise on ship restoration methods. When saving ships, one cannot afford to make the same mistake twice.

The scheme could work this way. It is supposed that information is received of some historic craft in danger. The World Ship Trust would then advance a sum sufficient to secure a "stay of execu-

tion" long enough for three questions to be considered. First: is she worth preserving? remembering there will never be money to save other than the most important. If the answer is yes, then what will it cost? Second: when this is known, how can it be done? Third: if it can be done, will it succeed?

Some projects will doubtless fail; but others will succeed, as the *Curry Sark* has done, with her 7,000,000 visitors. Not only does she earn her keep, she provides funds for other preservation schemes. Gipsy Moth IV also pays her way, and in August received her millionth visitor. On the other side of the world, receipts from the old square-rigger *Balclutha* cover the cost of San Francisco's Maritime Museum.

It is in the initial stages of ship preservation that a loan from the World Ship Trust could make all the difference between success and failure. When a restored ship is mak-

ing money, as so many do, the loan can be repaid to the central fund, where it will be available for other deserving projects.

Of course, to build such an organization will take time, and for most old craft there is not much time left. The first step must be to persuade the world's seafaring nations to found their own maritime trusts. The next should be to encourage these to form an international association, thus establishing a base on which to build the World Ship Trust that I envisage as the ultimate goal.

This I believe is what the Duke of Edinburgh might regard as the most promising line of action; and it will not be forgotten that it was under his leadership that our own Maritime Trust was established in 1970. His concern for the maritime heritage, not only of this country but of all seafar-

ing nations, is widely known and appreciated.

Such is the outline plan, and it is encouraging that action has already started overseas. At a Trafalgar Day luncheon aboard the *Robert Fulton* in New York in 1974, I was invited to launch the campaign to found a ship trust in the United States, following this with a promotion tour out to the west coast. A Bill for introduction into the Senate by Senator Edward Kennedy was delayed by drafting problems, but as an interim measure, responsibility for preserving historic ships in the United States has been entrusted to a newly formed Maritime Trust for Historic Preservation and 300,000 dollars from the proceeds of the Tall Ships rally, Operation Sail 76, has been devoted to this fund for its maritime programme.

In Holland, where I was invited to address the Netherlands Anchorites, a maritime trust was established in November 1975. In Norway considerable interest has been shown by the press, but further action has yet to begin. Reaction in other European countries remains to be stimulated, and interest has still to be aroused among the more distant seafaring peoples of the world.

To do all this, however, is more than a mere job. The stage has been set, and a steering committee is needed to undertake the task of financial backing. Is it too much to hope that such sponsors can be found? The time has come now, and the need is urgent.

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## A giant leap for mankind

This has not been much of a year for human beings: the usual catalogue of folly, distress, greed, violence, and madness, relieved by an occasional joke. But it has been a bumper year for fleas.

The flea has been a pest for as long as man has been on the planet. It has been a pest for as long as man has been on the planet. It has been a pest for as long as man has been on the planet. It has been a pest for as long as man has been on the planet.

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Christopher Walker

oned Derriek or Smart the better poet: "Sir, there is no setting the point of precedence between a flea and a flea. Johnson may have been sound on poetasters. But he was wrong about fleas. There is considerable point in distinguishing between the 1,600 species of the order Siphonaptera.

They are small (1 to 10mm), wingless insects. They have laterally flattened bodies with bristles and spines (cuticula), mouths adapted for piercing and sucking, and legs developed for leaping. Socrates tried to determine with the help of a friend and a simple mathematical formula how many times its own length a flea could jump. The answer is from 50 to 100 times its own length. It can jump a vertical distance of about 13 inches. If man could do the long jump proportionately well, he would be able to leap from Waterloo to Charing Cross, so saving commuters much time and frustration.

As a larva and a pupa the young flea is not parasitic but commensal, living in the nest or habitation of the host, and feeding on dirt, excrement, and dried blood. When it grows to adulthood, it feeds exclusively on the blood of mammals and birds. It prefers to feed every day, but can survive without food for several months if it has to. Because most fleas are host-specific, they are important carriers of disease. Many species of flea are specific to their hosts, and they are important carriers of disease. Many species of flea are specific to their hosts, and they are important carriers of disease.

The cat flea is probably the most common species, though in the nature of things, even a rough census is impracticable. Its formal name is *Ctenocephalides felis*, and it is at home all over the world. The female is about two millimetres long, the male slightly smaller. It is distinguished from the larger dog flea (*Ctenocephalides canis*) by a sloping forehead. The dog



Flea is beetle-browed with a rounded forehead. The cat flea is usually found where its name implies. One reason for our modern plague of stray cats, it has been known for some time that, if it cannot find a cat, the flea can become a parasite of a dog or some other mammal, or of poultry. In the past it had to be starving to bite a human, because to do so made it vomit. It seems possible that cat fleas are starting to develop a means of controlling their nausea. Such a development might enable them to breed on a diet of human blood.

As for fleas on humans, to be bitten by a cat flea is irritating and embarrassing (if we are easily embarrassed) rather than dangerous. This flea does not carry any serious disease, but is an intermediate host of the tapeworm. Its unperturbed pupal stage can wait a year before hatching.

The only foolproof method of getting rid of cat fleas completely is to get rid of cats. Most Britons would prefer to carry on scratching their lower legs than that. In any case, there are plenty of other species of the hungry little creature waiting to turn anthropophagous if we get rid of *Ctenocephalides felis*.

As Archy said to Mehitabel: insects have their own point of view about civilisation; a man thinks he amounts to a great deal, but to a flea or an encephalitic human being is merely something good to eat.

Philip Howard

George Hutchinson

## Why Princess Anne can never be plain Mrs

The birth of Princess Anne's baby, the Queen's first grandchild, is an event in which we can all take pleasure, wishing the new boy long life and happiness. At the risk of appearing churlish in this particular week, however, I now put forward a criticism, not of the Princess but of the designation with which she has been saddled: The Princess Anne, Mrs Mark Phillips.

Princess Anne is not—she cannot be—Mrs Phillips. By virtue of her royal birth she is Princess Anne, and as the daughter of a duke she is Lady Anne if style and title are to be extended—that is to say extended downwards. Mrs, never. The same is true of the enchanting Princess Alexandra, wrongly called Mrs Angus Ogilvy.

I have never understood why this abuse—this inaccurate designation—has been allowed by the Palace. Perhaps it is due to some misguided "egalitarian" notion in the minds of the Queen's advisers. I can think of no other explanation.

From time to time you have probably read letters in this newspaper ascribed to Mrs Elizabeth Young of 100, Baywater Road, W2. There is no such person at that address. The author is Lady Kennet, whose husband was Mr (or the Hon) Wayland Young, before he succeeded to the peerage. Nor is there a Mrs Barbara Castle in the present Parliament: as the wife of a peer she is Lady Castle.

Whatever Barbara Castle or Elizabeth Kennet may choose to call themselves, one might have expected the Palace to uphold the right usage. But no, the Palace has evidently succumbed, at least in this respect, to the sally of the trendy nonsense of the day. It is to be hoped that Princess

Anne and Princess Alexandra will soon be relieved of these unwelcome and inappropriate designations.

Those members of the Labour Party's national executive committee—Mr Mikardo and the like—who would so readily cut down the armed forces may care to reflect, in the light of the *Firemen's strike*, on the social implications of what they are advocating. If the strike has achieved nothing else, it should at least remind them of the civil functions and responsibilities attaching to the three services. These are often forgotten by critics of the military establishment, with their glib calls for economy.

As they are demonstrating yet again, soldiers, sailors and airmen have duties beyond those of war and defence. Embodying innumerable skills and resources, they are vital to the maintenance of public security in more senses than one. Unless they were available, in adequate strength, there could be no guarantee of orderly administration in conditions of physical disruption. Without them, we would all be at risk.

With the advent of nuclear weapons and the threat of atomic attack there are many who seem to think that conventional forces have had their day and are no longer of much value. In terms of military or strategic considerations this is faulty and dangerous reasoning. It is similarly mistaken in the context of civil affairs and the wellbeing of the community, as we are seeing.

While Lord Thorneycroft's back is turned (he is recovering from an operation), discord and division have afflicted the Conservative Central Office. Hence the abrupt resignation of Mr William Clark MP for Croydon South and a deputy chairman of the party organization.

I gather that he was not best pleased with some of the arrangements introduced during Lord Thorneycroft's absence.

Mr Clark was previously responsible for financial and budgetary control, a duty transferred to Lady Young, a former vice-chairman of the party, who recently joined the ranks of the deputy chairman, as an accountant, and a stern apostle of thrift. Mr Clark was well suited to the role, especially when funds—now awash—were still depressingly low.

A further change in the Central Office is directed towards the improvement of what are nowadays called the party's "communications"—the information and publicity services, for which Mr Angus Maude, another of the deputy chairmen, has just assumed responsibility at Mrs Thatcher's request. These services have been troubled about "communications" for some time, perhaps unduly so. Her trust in Mr Maule is to be welcomed—as a professional writer, and a former editor, he is admirably qualified for this exacting and sensitive commission.

My friend Mr Anthony Howard was greatly amused to say, I am informed, when he found that a well-known razor blade was no longer available. He wrote about its disappearance with some indignation in the columns of the *New Statesman*, of which he is editor. Sharing his preference, I myself was similarly disconcerted and felt very fed up until I discovered the "throw away" razor. This, I am told, is the latest innovation in the cheap and doubly effective.

As to the Ever Ready blade (for such it was), now with that it had gone out of production, I am sorry that it just goes to show that we can become too set in our ways as we grow older.

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## Was Drake's Plate 'planted' by students?

The "moral of doubt" cast upon Sir Francis Drake's Plate (The Times, August 8) has now, with full publication of the scientific findings, become a full sized portion: it seems certain that the "Plate of Brass", accepted for 40 years as a genuine memento of Drake's landing in California in 1579, is a cleverly forged and skilfully modern forgery. What remains enshrouded in mystery, however, is the identity and motive of the forger.

The inscribed brass plate was reported as having been found near San Francisco Bay in 1936; when announcement of the discovery was made another man claimed to have found but discarded the plate three years earlier, a claim corroborated by his then employer. These coincidental circumstances urged acceptance of the plate's genuineness on a willing public, as did a detailed physical and metallurgical analysis by a noted scientist in New York, Colin G. Fink. It is Fink's results that have been challenged by a battery of newer analytical techniques, the conclusions of which sobering but unequivocal, have been published by the Bancroft Library at the University of California at Berkeley, where the plate has long been enshrined. The Plate of Brass Reexamined now joins Drake's Plate of Brass Authenticated on the bookshelf to complete the documentation of a fraud as puzzling as Pile-down.

Fink had noted several odd features about the plate, including fine parallel striations that could be replicated with a scientific instrument, although it was widely accepted as genuine, doubts had been expressed by other scholars because of inappropriate features in the text of the inscription, and it was to remove or substantiate these doubts that the library recently decided to submit the plate to detailed reanalysis.

This took the form of three enquiries: into the inscription, the metal of the plate, and its method of manufacture. It was suggested that the plate, which appears several times in the inscription did not enter the English alphabet until after Drake's time; this is, however, a matter for debate, and it is curious that the J's in the inscription have been damaged by hammer blows, as though the maker of the letters intended ambiguity. Other letters, especially B, R, P, N, and M aroused the suspicions of experts at the Folger Shakespeare Library in Washington, who queried the use of extra strokes in the letters and the lack of abbreviations in the inscription, as well as the "surprisingly modern" spelling. They expressed "serious doubts as to its having been inscribed in the sixteenth century". Other specialists found the crudeness of the lettering unconvincing, given that the *Golden Hind* would have had on board "a

skilled gunner well versed in brass work, capable of high quality engraving".

The content of the text disturbed Professor Thomas Barnes of the University of California, who thought "the terminology in reference to Queen Elizabeth quite improper", suggesting that her title in Ireland and France would have been included as well as the "defender of the faith" she had inherited from her father, Henry VIII.

These "surface matters" of the inscription were of course only relevant if the basis itself proved to be old, and the composition of the metal was therefore analysed in parallel by the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in California and the Research Laboratory for Archaeology and the History of Art at Oxford University which has a longstanding reputation for exposing fakes, such as the Herculaneum papyri (The Times, July 30, 1971). Samples drilled from the plate were analysed by X-ray fluorescence at Oxford by Mr Robert Hedges, and showed it to contain some 35 per cent zinc and 65.2 per cent of copper. Silver was present in less than 120 parts per million (ppm), tin in less than 500 ppm, and had in less than one twentieth of 1 per cent. Mr Hedges compared this with the composition of sixteenth-century brass, and found it to be "a clear straight cut made

had 28-34 per cent zinc, while only two of 21 specimens prior to 1600 had a zinc content exceeding 30 per cent, and none of the samples tested had more than 10 per cent. On Drake's plate, while the lead content was higher in almost every case. This was found to exist in the pre-1600 brasses in quantities 10 times greater than the level in Drake's plate. Mr Hedges concluded that the evidence "cannot be used to support the contention that the brass is of the Elizabethan period", although he did not "think they can provide unequivocal proof of the authenticity or forgery of the plate".

The Berkeley analysis replicated these results, and found the composition to match that of a modern sheet brass called alloy 268, and to differ from that of sixteenth-century brass. These results were laid before a prominent historian of metallurgy, Professor Cyril Smith of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, whose initial reaction was to accept Fink's 1937 report as "in the main plausible". Last year Professor Smith examined the plate, after which he disagreed with Fink's conclusion "that the plate had been made by hammering rather than rolling" (a process only introduced in the late seventeenth century). Moreover the edge of the plate was not chisel-cut and filed, as would be expected of a sixteenth-century brass, but had "a clean straight cut made

in a guillotine shear, upset by hammering on the edge to remove the shear marks. Most of the evidence has been reported but not entirely. On the closely concurring results of the Oxford and Berkeley analyses, Professor Smith remarked that "both the low zinc content as well as the high general impurity content are consistent with a piece of modern common high brass".

He concluded "I approached the plate with a slight prejudice in favour of its authenticity, but I now incline to the belief that it is a product of the present century. All of the features that I have noted make me incline to the opinion that the plate is a modern forgery".

The results of gamma-ray absorption studies of the thickness of the plate and ultrasonic examination of the homogeneity and orientation of the metal grains both suggested that it was a piece of rolled, relatively modern, brass. Thus the tools of modern science contravened the conclusions reached 40 years ago, using the best techniques then available. Historians, numismatists and physicists are united in an acceptance that "Drake's Plate of Brass" could not have been the plate which Chaplain Fletcher records Drake as having left nailed to a "faire grove" post somewhere on the coast of New Albion, now California.

Norman Hammond  
Archaeological Correspondent  
The Plate of Brass Reexamined. A Report issued by The Bancroft Library, University of California, Berkeley, 1977 \$5.00.

FRANK COOPER  
"OXFORD"  
Orange Peel  
MARMALADE  
454g 1lb  
makes the marmalade that makes the British breakfast.

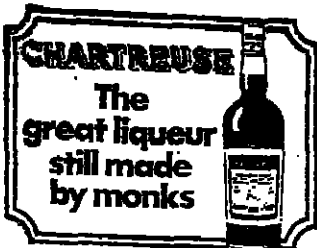












## Third quarter rise in GDP, but industrial output stays sluggish

By Melvyn Westlake  
Economic activity in Britain appears to have begun to pick up in midsummer. According to provisional Government figures published yesterday, gross domestic product—which measures the nation's total output of goods and services—rose at an annual rate of almost 3 per cent in the third quarter of this year.

However, the rise, if it is confirmed, comes after a prolonged period of depressed output and does not even restore economic activity to the level prevailing at the turn of the year.

Indeed, unless the fourth quarter turns out to be much better for business than is now expected, growth for 1977 will still fall short of the peak reached four years earlier, though somewhat higher than during the recession years of 1975 and 1976.

Over the first nine months of this year the gross domestic product has shown an average growth of less than 1 per cent compared with the average of 1976.

Both Government and private forecasts now expect a rather bigger rise in 1978. Most private forecasts suggest an expansion in the economy next year of between 2½ and 3½ per cent, while Treasury economists predict a growth rate of 3½ per cent between the second half of 1977 and the second half of 1978.

It is possible that the Treasury forecasts could prove to be rather conservative as they assume a rise in average earnings of 10 per cent.

As it now seems increasingly probable that average earnings will be a good deal higher than 10 per cent, output could rise quite sharply under the stimulus of higher consumer spending, at least until higher wages lead to higher prices.

More immediately, the problem for the Government is the continuing depressed state of industrial production, which accounts for almost half of the nation's entire output. In the third quarter all the major economic activity resulted from the agricultural and distributive sectors.

Industrial production has, for

GDP				
Gross domestic product at constant price (1970=100) seasonally adjusted				
	Based on preliminary estimate	Based on preliminary estimate	Based on preliminary estimate	Average
	1975 Q1	1975 Q2	1975 Q3	1975 Q4
1975 Q1	110.3	108.0	108.5	108.3
1975 Q2	108.0	107.5	107.5	107.5
1975 Q3	108.1	108.2	108.6	108.6
1975 Q4	108.1	108.9	107.1	107.4
1976 Q1	112.4	109.4	108.6	110.1
1976 Q2	112.4	109.4	108.6	110.1
1976 Q3	111.3	108.5	108.5	108.5
1976 Q4	112.0	108.5	110.1	110.2
1977 Q1	108.9	108.0	110.4	109.4
1977 Q2	111.5	108.2	108.1	108.9
1977 Q3	111.5	108.2	108.1	108.9

— preliminary estimate

Unfortunately, because of the involuntary build up in stocks which appears to have taken place in earlier months, the higher level of retail sales probably led to de-stocking rather than being reflected in higher factory output.

Foreign demand for British goods, provided some cushion for the growth in the volume of exports in the third quarter was offset to a large extent by an increase in import volumes.

The Government's hope now is that, with the fresh stimulus that the Chancellor has just given to the economy, consumer demand will again rise, working through to higher industrial output and ultimately to an increase in investment.

## Yen at fresh peak despite Tokyo move to peg rate

By Caroline Atkinson

Japan's currency strengthened to an all-time high at the close of 243.45 to the dollar yesterday, despite heavy official intervention in the Tokyo foreign exchange market. In London the rate closed 1.3 yen higher than on Thursday at 244.1.

Emergency inward exchange controls announced in Tokyo on Thursday have not changed the market's view that the yen will appreciate still further this year.

Although the reserve requirements which come into force next week will make it more expensive for foreigners to hold yen, this is outweighed by the prospect of a capital appreciation on yen balances.

Dealers are expecting new measures by the Japanese Government to cut its trade and current account surplus. In October the trade surplus widened to just below its all-time high.

A working committee has been set up by the Cabinet to consider proposals for raising imports. Suggestions include a relaxation of import quotas and a scheme to finance accelerated imports.

But none of the measures taken earlier this year has had a noticeable effect, and it remains to be seen whether the Government will be able to do anything effective now.

The yen's 30 per cent effective appreciation this year is a major cause of concern for Japanese businessmen.

At the same time it is being hammered home to them that Japan's trading partners are increasingly anxious to see a change in trading policies. Talks are taking place this weekend between American and Japanese trade officials, and Tokyo's huge surplus is bound to be raised at the Organization of Economic Co-operation and Development talks in Paris next week.

Daiwa Securities yesterday published a gloomy forecast of Japanese economic growth, believing it will end below 5½ per cent this year, rather than the 6.7 per cent target.

The dollar was generally weaker yesterday, falling to DM2.245 and £2.204. Swiss francs, however, were stronger, especially from New York, and closed \$3.825, 55 points up on the day. The effective rate index rose by 0.1 to 63.8.

## Companies Act charges over SUITS balance sheet and share dealings

### Sir Hugh Fraser and others accused

Sir Hugh Fraser and five other businessmen were charged yesterday with breaching the Companies Act. It was alleged at Glasgow Sheriff Court that as directors of Scottish and Universal Investments they failed to give a true and fair view of the affairs of the company.

Accused are: Sir Hugh, deputy chairman of SUITS, and Mr James Gosman, an executive director, both of Park Gardens, Glasgow, the company registered office; Mr Nicholas John Redmayne of Walscot Lodge, Walscot, Lutterworth, Leicestershire, a non-executive director; Mr William Forgie, Sutherland Avenue, Glasgow; Mr Edward Cumber, Lindridge, Turnberry, Ayrshire; and Mr Angus Grossart, Howe Street, Edinburgh.

All are charged that on September 25, 1975, at the twenty-seventh annual meeting of SUITS they approved the balance sheet for the year ending March 1975 which did not give a true and fair view of the affairs of the company.

It is alleged the balance sheet contained items showing current assets at £10,433,432 with a note appended to it. This note, it is alleged, showed the assets consisted of £699,875 described as "debtors and pre-paid charges" and £9,733,557 described as "cash at bankers and on hand".



Sir Hugh Fraser: also charged over share transactions.

The charge claims that, in fact, the accused knew the sum at bankers and on hand did not exceed £5,500,100.

It is alleged they knew the difference of £4,233,432 was an unsecured loan to Amalgamated Caledonian.

This was contrary to section 149(6) of the Companies Act, 1948.

Sir Hugh, Messrs Forgie, Grossart, and Redmayne are charged separately under the Companies Act 1967 with offences involving shares. It is alleged that between November 6, 1974, and March 16 this year

Sir Hugh bought and sold millions of shares without telling SUITS about his transactions within 14 days—as required by the Companies Act. On one day, March 18, 1975, the charge alleges that he bought and sold three million shares.

Mr Forgie is accused of failing to tell the company about 1450 shares he bought in SUITS on two dates in 1975.

Mr Grossart is alleged not to have told SUITS about 75,000 shares he sold in 1975. Mr Redmayne faces a charge of not telling the company that he bought 52,500 shares and sold 42,500 in 1974 and 1975.

None of the six was present at the Sheriff Court. All were represented by solicitors.

All except Mr Forgie pleaded not guilty to all charges. His solicitor lodged a plea to the competency of the first charge and a not guilty plea to the second charge faced by his client.

Debate on the competency will be held on January 9 and the trial of all the accused, expected to last a week, will begin on May 15.

The minimum penalty on the charge faced by all six is six months' imprisonment or a fine of £200.

Penalties on the other offences are three months' imprisonment or £200 fine.

## Steel unions concede ground on manpower cuts, but resist closures

By Paul Routledge

Labour Correspondent

Steel union leaders yesterday conceded to go some way towards meeting the manpower economies sought by the British Steel Corporation, but rejected proposals for halting new investment and shutting down large numbers of plants.

The executive of the Iron and Steel Trades Confederation voted to open talks with the BSC on a national compensation scheme to give workers who accept voluntary redundancy more generous severance payments than state provisions allow.

However, they reaffirmed opposition to the corporation's plan to shift orders from high cost to low cost works, and insisted that the industry's long-term requirement and modernization programme should continue to be supported.

ISTC leaders will now seek an early meeting of the TUC steel industry committee in an effort to reach a common policy to put to British Steel. BSC will next week announce a loss for the first half of the year in excess of £200m.

The steel union executive, which was addressed by Mr Bob Scholey, BSC chief executive, earlier this week, also decided that the industry's working conditions should be cut "to the barest minimum" and that wherever possible, work should not be given to outside contractors. The Government will be asked to curb steel imports.

The ISTC is also seeking a meeting with Mr Varley, the Secretary of State, to discuss the Government's attitude.

In the past, loss-making plants had their future safeguarded by Cabinet decisions, because most of the plants were in politically sensitive areas such as West Scotland, north-east England and South Wales where unemployment is high and there are large numbers of Labour MPs.

The investment programme agreed before the current worldwide ordering recession in steel must also stand, in the union's view. In particular, ISTC wants electric arc furnaces to be built on schedule at Shelton, Stoke-on-Trent and Humberston, Ayrshire. As for possible closures, the union is insisting that BSC cannot have "carte blanche" to shut down unprofitable capacity.

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## Variable rate council bond likely

By John Whitmore

Financial Correspondent

The first issue is expected, possibly next Tuesday, of a local authority negotiable bond carrying a variable rather than the traditional fixed rate of interest.

A number of authorities have already issued variable rate stocks, as opposed to bonds, carrying a maturity of more than five years. It appears, however, that some authorities, keen to make use of the variable rate coupon, wish to be able to issue paper of rather shorter maturity. The Bank of England has given its permission.

Just how short the authorities would wish to go on a floating rate basis remains to be seen, but there would seem to be little incentive to produce a "yearling" bond on a floating rate basis while fixed rate money can still be raised relatively cheaply.

It may well be that the authorities will aim at periods just under the five year mark, where, unless there was a major surge in short term interest rates, there could be a considerable interest saving relative to a fixed coupon issue of similar maturity.

There have already been two pioneering issues recently by the Agricultural Mortgage Corporation, one of which was placed yesterday on the basis of a coupon at 1 per cent over the offered rate for six month deposits in the London inter-bank market.

The local authority issues would also be geared to the six month deposit rate, with the Bank of England supplying a figure worked out as an average of figures provided by the five English clearing banks.

The mark-up over this rate would be negotiated between the issuer and the lender, and is thought likely to be about 1 per cent.

## Demand for fire-fighting equipment heats up

Sales of fire-fighting equipment have soared in the last few weeks as a result of the firemen's strike. The big manufacturers say they are only just managing to keep pace with demands for new equipment and for servicing that already installed. There have also been extra calls on the big security organizations whose patrolmen are trained to prevent fires from fire as well as from theft.

According to Mr W. E. Randall, group managing director of Chubb, whose fire security subsidiary is one of the largest in the field, inquiries for fire extinguishers have jumped from an average of about 30 a day to nearer 180 since the strike started.

A similar "lift" in sales was reported yesterday by Nu-Swift Industries, the Yorkshire-based specialist fire extinguisher manufacturer.

The manufacturers expect that the general increase in awareness of fire hazards will continue to improve their United Kingdom sales. These had been languishing as a result of the general economic downturn. Without the strike, little growth had been expected on the 1975 figures when £150m was spent on fire protection equipment.

A similar Association, an advisory body set up by the insurance companies, while welcoming heightened awareness of fire risks, advises householders against buying costly special equipment. It says that a bucket of water or sand may be a speedier method of putting out a small fire than an unfamiliar extinguisher.

Directives urging extra fire vigilance have been sent out to staff by the security groups. A spokesman for Securitas International's Group 4 security subsidiary said yesterday that its patrolmen had reported 6,000 fire appliances as faulty on clients' premises last year.

Insurance groups are still trying to assess the likely effects of the strike on underwriting results. The British Insurance Association said last night that the dispute would undoubtedly have an adverse effect on fourth quarter profitability, but that this could be negligible given the wide spread of risk-sharing.

So far this year fire insurance losses have shown a real improvement, with total losses in the first nine months amounting to £166m, according to BIA figures, compared with £188m in the same period of last year.

The reason for this reduction, which is much more significant when inflation is taken into account, has been attributed to a number of factors, including a lower level of industrial activity, wetter weather conditions, and increased awareness of fire risks.

Patricia Tisdall and Richard Allen

## Rise in money supply dashes Wall Street hopes for lower interest rate levels

From Frank Vogl

Washington, Nov 18

The nation's money stock rose sharply last week, and the release of the latest figures by the Federal Reserve Board has effectively killed hopes in Wall Street of some easing in interest rate levels.

Citibank announced today that it was holding its prime lending rate at 7½ per cent.

Stock markets, which have been particularly sensitive to money supply developments in recent months, are struggling to find a clear course, and the monetary data is adding to the general confusion and uncertainty.

While the Dow Jones industrial share price average appears to have moved safely above the 800 level, it has

failed so far to rise confidently above the 840 mark.

The Fed announced that the narrowly-defined money supply, M1, rose by \$2,400m (£1,330m) in the week to November 9, after the decline in the previous week of \$3,300m. The Fed also stated that the more broadly-defined money supply, M2, increased in the last statement week by \$3,600m after a fall of \$2,800m in the previous week.

Large declines in M1 and M2 in the week to November 2 had raised hopes of some easing in interest rates and one modest-sized bank in St Louis announced a ½ point cut to 7½ per cent earlier this week. The latest figures, however, may spark fresh speculation of further tightening by the Fed.

There are increasing fears in Congress and in Wall Street

that the White House and the Fed are on a policy collision course. The Fed may tighten monetary policies just as the Administration decides to ease fiscal policies.

Mr Ray Marshall, Secretary of Labour, and Mr Robert Byrd, the Senate majority leader, both joined the growing chorus calling for tax cuts early next year to stimulate the economy.

Should the monetary aggregates show further strong growth in the current week the Fed might have to permit some increase in interest rates in order to try to bring the money supply growth rate back within its target ranges.

The picture has become particularly confused in recent weeks, with some sharper declines than rises in M1 which stood at \$333,600m, \$600m below its level in early October.

## Jobs go at River Thames Shiprepairs

By Malcolm Brown

River Thames Shiprepairs, set up earlier this year by merging two Thames repair companies, London Graving Dock and Green & Silley Weir, is to make 370 employees redundant.

This was announced to a meeting of 150 managers and shop stewards in London yesterday when the RTS management disclosed the contents of the corporate plan prepared by consultants to implement the merger and make the group profitable. RTS is now part of the state-owned British Shipbuilders.

Up to 120 foremen and staff will lose their jobs and not fewer than 250 of the general workforce.

Mr James Ekins, chief executive of RTS, said that if the increased sales targets and proposals for increasing productivity were met, it should be possible to restrict redundancies to these figures.

The plan does not take account of the smaller yards at Gravesend, Sheerness and Felixstowe, which will continue as they are.

## Acas to mediate in haulage strike

The Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) has been called into the dispute that has closed Surtons Transport of St Helens, Lancs, one of the largest general haulage contractors in Europe.

Its general haulage division has been closed after dismissal of 170 drivers at St Helens, Manchester, and London depots who were on unofficial strike.

The company said, and added that there were no plans to restart general haulage work. Its warehousing and road tanker operations are not affected.

## Rating surcharge cuts on empty properties

Commercial properties with a rating value of less than £2,000 which are not used for more than six months will no longer attract rating surcharges. It was reported at the annual meeting in London yesterday of the Machinery Users' Association. Owners who can show they have tried their best to sell an unused property will also escape the rating burden.

The association had pressed the Department of Environment to make changes.

## United Overseas Bank

In its edition of November 8 we said that a 20 per cent stake in the United Overseas Bank of Geneva at \$2.50 a share. We have been asked to point out that the United Overseas Bank has never held such a shareholding, either in the United Overseas Bank or in the United Overseas Bank of Geneva. Consequently, the United Overseas Bank never passed this stake to a private company. Alpa, with which Mr Pegg and Mr Abramson were connected, never held such a shareholding. Furthermore, the bank has never nominated Mr Pegg or Mr Abramson to the Morgan-Granville board, or any other.

## Regular premium life business declines

By Margaret Stone

Figures released yesterday by the Life Offices Association show that although sales of single premium policies have increased steadily throughout the year, sales of new regular premium policies (measured by premium income) fell off sharply in the third quarter.

New regular premium income (transferring from monthly to annual payments) fell to £109m in the third quarter, compared with £125m in the second quarter and £101m in the first.

By contrast single premium income rose from £109m in the first quarter, through £118m in the second to £132m in the third.

Sales of new regular premium policies, however, remained at

£21m in the third quarter compared with £19m in the first. Single premium business sales are generally down at £58m.

The relative strength of linked life assurance sales helps to explain why traditional life offices have turned to linked life business.

About a quarter of the linked life business, £19.94m, found its way either directly or indirectly through equity bond (funds) into unit trusts. The volume going into unit trusts has hardly varied, with £20.05m and £18.4m in the second and first quarters respectively. Direct sales have fluctuated widely.

After several disappointing months unit trust net sales are picking up. In October they were the best for the year at £13,156,000.

## Brake on rising living costs cheers equities

By David Mott

It is feared that the growth in money supply may soon lead to a sharp rise in interest rates made for a nervous start on the London stock market yesterday.

But share prices regained much of their poise as the retail prices figures confirmed the falling rate of inflation, and by the close the FT Index was just 0.5 off 480.5.

Gift-edged stocks also gained ground as the day progressed, early losses of up to a point and a half had been cut back to between one quarter and one half a point at the close.

Nevertheless equity dealers were glad to finish what has proved to be a difficult week in which hopes of a substantial rally over the 500 mark were dashed. The index lost almost 21 points over the five sessions as industrial worries and a crop of disappointing figures from leading companies kept genuine investors firmly on the sidelines.

With the institutions staying their hand the field was left clear for the short-term operator to hold sway.

## RETAIL PRICES

The following are the index numbers (January 1974=100) for retail prices not seasonally adjusted, released by the Department of Employment yesterday:

(1) All items (2) All items except seasonal food

1976 Oct 163.5 162.8 14.4 Nov 165.8 164.8 14.2 Dec 168.0 166.8 15.2

1977 Jan 172.4 170.9 18.0 Feb 174.1 172.5 18.4 March 175.8 174.3 18.7 April 180.3 178.7 19.7 May 181.7 180.5 20.0 June 183.6 182.4 19.5 July 183.8 182.6 19.5 Aug 184.7 184.9 14.9 Sept 185.7 185.2 14.1 Oct 186.5 187.3 9.9

## How the markets moved

The Times index: 202.22-0.54  
The FT index: 480.5-0.5

### Rises

Anglo Am Coal 20p to 460p  
Anglo Am Ind 10p to 470p  
Brit & Com 25p to 260p  
Caledonia Ind 20p to 230p  
Dunfermline 17p to 230p  
E Delfont 21p to 250p  
Fisons 10p to 350p

### Falls

Com Bk of Aust 8p to 232p  
De La Rue 10p to 330p  
Hickson Welch 10p to 250p  
Hillards 7p to 250p  
Land Securities 6p to 200p  
Marshall 10p to 250p  
Nurdin & Fook 7p to 101p

Equities rallied from a weak start. Gift-edged securities closed lower. Dollar premium 99.0 per cent (effective rate 37.76 per cent). Sterling gained 55 pts to \$1.8250. The effective exchange rate index was at 63.8.

Libanon 13p to 430p  
Mortelate Cqn 8p to 90p  
Nat Carbon 2p to 31p  
Simpson S 3p to 72p  
Tiger Oats 14p to 400p  
UK Invest 10p to 700p  
Vereniging Ref 10p to 120p

Prop Sec 7p to 115p  
Sainsbury 3p to 185p  
Seacombe Star 10p to 240p  
Stock Conv 8p to 225p  
Thorn Elect 6p to 300p  
Unilever 8p to 520p  
Vickers 4p to 133p

Gold gained \$2.25 an ounce to \$161.65.  
SDR-5 was 1.18251 on Friday while SDR-1 was 0.648766.

Commodities: The nearby cocoa price plunged. Reuters' index was at 1486.5 (previous 1489.5).

Reports, pages 19 and 20

### THE POUND

Australia S 1.66 1.61  
Austria Sch 36.50 28.50  
Belgium Fr 66.18 66.18  
Canada S 2.06 2.01  
Denmark Kr 11.48 11.08  
Fin



PERSONAL INVESTMENT AND FINANCE

Grouse

Supplementary benefits are designed for people in need—for those who cannot make ends meet. Their entitlement is established by calculations which are based precisely on outgoings on the one hand and resources on the other.

Resources include income from various sources—earnings, state benefits, private pensions, maintenance payments, disbursement pensions, and other income—of which certain amounts are disregarded.

However, the Government unfortunately employs a different yardstick for the various categories of income when determining how much from each source can be disregarded.

Mr A. J. Boyd, of Redditch, Worcestershire, writes: "What surprises me is that the (Supplementary Benefits) Commission never seems to have made any criticism of one glaring anomaly in the Social Security Benefits Act of 1975. That Act increased the amount that could be disregarded from certain types of income to £4, when calculating how much supplementary benefit was payable.

However, so far as superannuation was concerned the Minister refused to increase the disregarded amount of £1 which had been in force since 1966, on the premise that it should be treated like retirement pensions as being payable specifically for a person's maintenance.

"The anomaly is that those persons not in a compulsory superannuation scheme can make provision through, for example, an assurance company and, whatever weekly income they receive from the company on retirement, the Commission will disregard £4 when calculating benefit payable."

What it amounts to is that anyone who has contributed to a pension scheme, a form of involuntary saving for retirement, is penalized in comparison with the person who voluntarily saves for his retirement in order to buy an immediate annuity—of which £4 a week and not £1 will be disregarded.

Pensioners could be helped significantly if their occupational pensions—and some of those which people started drawing a few years ago but were very limited in their benefits—could be put on the same £4 footing.

Insurance

Brokers begin to face up to the reality of the registration Act

Traditionally, life assurance companies have been ready enough to pay commission for the introduction of business. The argument on the life side is that selling is all important; the more people selling, the higher should be the sales figures.

In broad terms, the intermediaries break down into life assurance brokers with virtually all life offices from which to choose; agents such as accountants, solicitors and others who deal with a very limited number of companies; and the companies' own sales forces.

Obviously, a company's own sales force sells only that company's products, and makes no bones about it. Many of these salesmen are self-employed, technically, but from a prospective point of view, are to all intents and purposes employed by the company.

Once the registration of brokers, as stipulated by the recent Insurance Brokers (Registration) Act, gets under way, there will be another category: those calling themselves brokers who fail to achieve registration and who will thus no longer be brokers.

For many life brokers, giving expert and unbiased service to clients, life has not been altogether easy. Understandably, some feel that they should receive a higher rate of commission than the rate offered to agents, especially those agents who merely introduce a client to a company and let the company undertake the selling of the policy—thus incurring additional costs.

While that will be, no doubt, one of the aims of the single broking body—the British Insurance Brokers' Association—once it has got into its stride, the fact that all brokers will be under one umbrella may make that difficult to achieve.

For instance, a life office might genuinely see grounds for paying a higher rate of commission to the leading life insurance brokers, or those which produce a large volume of business at comparatively low cost to the office.

But there would be much reluctance to pay a higher rate of commission to all members of BIBA since the amount of life business handled by some may be very limited. And some of the brokers need to rely quite heavily on the companies for technical back-up—which costs money.

It might be thought that brokers would dislike companies operating their own sales forces. Admittedly, some com-

John Drummond

"We've no choice about selling."

Mrs Eileen Donald, club secretary (third from left), Mrs June Josephs, chairman (centre) and Mrs Muriel Jones, treasurer (second from right) explain to members of the Finance for Fun Investment Club that they must sell shares if they want to make use of their opportunity to buy shares in Imperial Metal Industries.



It's fun when you club together...

If you went to the Hurlingham Club on the second Thursday of the month you would not have been surprised to meet a couple of dozen of middle-aged, affluent ladies drinking coffee but not at Harrod's. Try the Stock Exchange and you would not be far wrong.

Certainly, it was about money, service and shopping but not at Harrod's. Try the Stock Exchange and you would not be far wrong.

What, in fact, you would have stumbled across was the monthly meeting of the Finance for Fun Investment Club.

Investment clubs properly have their origins in the late Fifties and early Sixties when the cult of equity was at its height. Today there is not the same blind faith in equity investment and the National Association of Investment Clubs is but a shadow of the movement it once was.

But throughout the country, investment clubs where people of like mind meet regularly to discuss their common investments bought from a common pool, still survive.

Such is the Finance for Fun Investment Club, which was formed in March, 1962, by a group of 20 or so women, nearly all neighbours in an elegant part of Putney along the Thames. Only two founder members still belong to the club, but when I met the chairman, Mrs June Josephs and secretary, Mrs Eileen Donald, I quickly realized that the original aims remain—to learn about the Stock Exchange, to teach members to manage their own affairs and to keep people together.

That sober definition does not quite capture the flavour of the club—but its title does. The ladies of Hurlingham really enjoy their monthly meetings. It is to argue the merits, or otherwise, of a share that someone is recommending.

Making a successful decision, which does not always happen—buying at the wrong time, that's where the fun is, Mrs Donald admitted—is clearly what matters most to the 36 members. Making money is a welcome bonus.

When the club was launched 15 years ago each

member contributed £2 a month. Now there is an annual subscription of £5.30 per unit, which gives them just over £900 of new money a year to play with, plus any proceeds that may come from the sale of shares or receipt of dividends.

"We always plough back dividends," Mrs Josephs said (although ultimately each member is responsible for the tax on her pro rata share of the dividends and capital gains).

The Finance for Fun portfolio is now worth over £18,000. Whenever possible, the club buys a new share. "It's the money point of the exercise," Mrs Donald said.

When I visited the club for its November meeting, the problem was different, though. For the first time, it was actually possible to be forced to sell shares to meet two special and unforeseen circumstances.

In the first place, as ICI shareholders, the club had an opportunity to buy 2,000 Imperial Metal Industries shares under the offer for sale and decided to take them up. The club treasurer, Mrs Muriel Jones, described ICI's services using her big cuttings book, and said that she had been advised by two stockbrokers to take up the shares and hold them for at least a year.

The second special situation was the unprecedented notice of intent by members to sell four units. A few years ago the club decided that each member's share or unit in the club's portfolio had become, in the jargon, too "heavy". So they had what amounts to a "scrap issue". Each unit was subdivided into four, which could individually be bought or sold independently of the rest.

It was a useful device which enabled members to take some profit out of the club without losing the club's identity. It might have been made for the last two or three months in the stock market. A number of the ladies had remembered the famous Rothschild's famous words: "I don't know when to sell, but I know when not to sell."

The net result was that, with the £660 in the bank accounts being earmarked for the sale of units, the club could raise a further £500 required for the

IMI application. The question was: what to sell?

The committee, which meets a week before the full club, had done the preliminary work and presented members with two options. (The committee recommends, but the club must say "yes" or "no".)

Either they could sell the Cavendish Preference and Imperial Convertible Loan or the 359 shares in RTZ.

"We've no choice about selling," the treasurer explained, but members might wish to suggest other shares which could be sold instead.

The sale of the club's 175 De Beers shares was floated and within minutes the meeting took place within days of De Beers having announced an increase of 17 per cent in rough diamond prices.

The reaction from the floor seemed to be that although De Beers was "questionable", being in South Africa, it was

still interesting despite the overnight increase in price. In response to a question from the secretary—"Does anyone want to profit-take?"—Sun Alliance was a short-lived candidate.

So the main contenders remained Cavendish Preference and Imperial Convertible Loan versus RTZ. Mrs Donald pointed out that the former were "two bitty bits we don't really want". (Both were acquired as part of share deals, rather than outright purchase.) "We kept them for an emergency when we might need cash."

However, she did agree, when questioned, that it would cost more to sell two stocks than one.

The discussion on RTZ was more animated. One member said that as an investment list I would rather sell RTZ. Another pointed out that the price of copper was "unpre-

dictable" and in a secret ballot, as opposed to a show of hands, members voted by 20 to 5 to sell RTZ.

The main business of the day concluded, the members moved on to other business, which included a regular "ask" on different aspects of investment. The previous month the meaning of "hot money" was explained. Mrs Sheila Collett had researched "asset-stripping" or "a beneficial influence" or "a beneficial influence" she asked.

Then came business of a more technical nature. Should the club expand or not, by lifting the limits on the number of units a member may hold.

"Why not?" asked one member. "We're not afraid of a takeover bid."

It was pointed out by another member that as there was no voting power attached to the units, it did not matter if a "great" company was bought, extra high income or a combination of both.

Besides the usual unit trust management charges, sales of holdings will incur normal stockbroker commission plus VAT, which will work out at about 2½ per cent of the amount of the bargain. The UTAS itself will receive the usual 1 per cent commission from the unit trust management groups, plus, in some cases, the marketing allowance of a similar amount.

A more serious objection raised by another member was the risk the club might run if too many people wanted to sell a lot of units at the same time. On the other hand, members did agree with Mrs Josephs' comment that "in a stagnant market people will want to sell and that will give us something to do."

So a useful compromise was reached and the new unit limit per member was raised from four to six by a majority of 21 to four. The final investment business was the monthly bet on the index. Everyone was very pleased that Mrs Jones, the treasurer, had won with a very close prediction that in a month's time the market would have fallen from 504 (on the date of the October meeting) to 483.7 by November 10. In the event, the FT ordinary share index that day was 482.1.

But there are more prizes. Mrs Jones had received her £1 prize money, the club got down to planning next month's Christmas lunch. I shall be going back there next February to see how well their portfolio is doing.

Margaret Stone

How I struggled manfully to understand tax

There are many advantages in being self-employed. Not least is the fact that one is spared three of the worries that haunt the Organization Man—does my boss appreciate me, are my subordinates letting me down and are my colleagues stabbing me in the back?

Freelance work, like warfare, tends to consist of alternating periods of frenzied activity and frenzied inactivity, so that the two things that tend to wake one up screaming in the middle of the night are, in contrast, how am I going to get it all done or where is the next meal coming from?

The freelance consultant, particularly in his active spells, is therefore notoriously jealous of his time and the idea of frittering away whole vital and valuable days on some essentially unproductive activity is bitterly resisted. Thus all the maddening administrative things tend inevitably to be pushed farther and farther into the depths of the penning tray and correspondents of this category are jolly lucky if they ever get a reply at all.

It is thus that people from, for example, the Department of Health and Social Security who worry about one's National Insurance contributions tend to have to worry for a fairly long time. The VAT brigade is likewise also shelved often as not.

However, generally speaking in my own experience, dealings with all of these are fairly simple and it is not until one reaches the foot-hills of the Inland Revenue that the entire flavour of the switch-off

phenomenon is experienced to the full.

I once took an examination for the Association of the Institute of Taxation. It is the only exam I have ever failed. I do not know why I even dreamed of taking it.

What it revealed was that I have this terrible mental block about tax. How the system works is wholly baffling to me. I know that the obvious thing to do would be to get an accountant to do the whole

thing for me, but I find I resist the fact that I cannot understand it and terribly want to overcome this inherent failing. I therefore manfully struggle on alone.

At this point I must introduce you to Mr Roberts. Some people have an ill-conceived idea about Her Majesty's Inspectors of Taxes. So, I think they are—grasping, may even be a little bit of a nuisance, but with a helpful mirth as they squeeze us all until the pips squeak.

For all I know such fiends can indeed be found within the Inland Revenue service, but I have not come across them. In my experience they are a body of men unfailingly courteous, patient and understanding to the point of sainthood and Mr Roberts is *primus inter pares* when it comes to that.

But there are some people in business for whom, however hard one tries, everything always goes wrong. Mr Roberts and I have this kind of relationship.

In order to sort out the byzantine complexities of my affairs it is necessary for Mr Roberts and me to meet at

regular intervals. This we have in the past singularly failed to do.

I was ill on one occasion and he was ill on another. On the third occasion the file had been mislaid. On the fourth I had taken home a copy of certain documents before sending them on to him. On the fifth he had been temporarily transferred to another office and on the sixth my car had broken down. On the seventh his secretary ran me to say that that very morning he had been stung by a highly allergenic bee.

My papers have been passed to his assistant without a word of farewell and I fear that I shall not be as lucky in my new relationship. In fact, I am absolutely positive of it. The new man will be about 18 stone, with closely cropped iron grey hair and tiny black piggy eyes. He is not going to put up with any stupidity or crass inability to get down to the matter in hand. An era has passed and I fear that nothing will ever be the same again.

Francis Kinsman

Unit trusts  
Managing  
your  
trust  
portfolio

The emergence of the specialized unit trusts in recent years has tended to turn some of the arguments for mutualized investment on their heads.

The average unit trust investor, beguiled into the movement on the notion that someone else would manage his money for him, and that instead of worrying about the merits of various sectors or companies all these decisions would be made for him, now finds himself confronted by a number of trusts offering him investments in highly specialized areas, such as commodities, property shares and international markets.

Stockbrokers Hoare Gove have not been the first to see that what is needed now is advice for unit trust investors about which fund to purchase—and when. Despite the traditional advice of the fund managers that unit trust investment is a long-term proposition, investors know only too well—there is a time to buy and a time to sell, particularly where specialized funds are concerned.

Hoare's new service will be open to anyone and entirely discretionary. All decisions have to be left to them. The 1 per cent plus VAT administration fee will charge annually will be a minimum of £15.

The Unit Trust Advisory Service (investment decisions will be in the hands of Robin Boyle) will find out what the investor wants in the way of performance, capital growth, extra high income or a combination of both.

Besides the usual unit trust management charges, sales of holdings will incur normal stockbroker commission plus VAT, which will work out at about 2½ per cent of the amount of the bargain. The UTAS itself will receive the usual 1 per cent commission from the unit trust management groups, plus, in some cases, the marketing allowance of a similar amount.

Potential clients should be aware that cheaper advisory (but non-discretionary) services are available. Hoare will have to demonstrate a very superior performance to justify the cost to unit-trustholders.

Roux & Pitman, another firm of stockbrokers, have run a completely free counselling service to unit trust investors for some years. Although non-discretionary, it provides clients with individual monitoring of portfolios plus personal advice on buying and selling units.

Bristol life brokers Richards Longstaff have a service similar to Roux & Pitman's, which has been in operation for just over a year. Richards Longstaff charge a flat fee administration fee of £15 in the second and subsequent years only and provide regular reviews of individual portfolios and newsletters at least every quarter. Like Roux & Pitman they will receive commission from the unit trust groups.

In theory, it should be cheaper to run a purely discretionary service, such as Hoare are offering, since there is no requirement to keep in close touch with the client, but the new group stands to be significantly more expensive, particularly if the stockbroker's commission on sales.

But the proof of the pudding is in the eating. Other groups may be busy merging funds but Schlesinger Trust Managers continue to expand this range. The latest additions are the Stockbroker's Trust Units fund and the Special Situation Trust.

The twin launch is a curious mixture of early and late timing. Recovery (or special situation) funds have made the running this year and maybe there is not much immediately left to be run here. Investment trusts, on the other hand, despite the widespread belief that Erss was going to be their year, have yet to pick up steam.

Margaret Drummond

Investment trust valuations

VALUATION MONTHLY	Company	Date of valuation	Annual dividend	Net asset value	Investment currency
Total assets less current liabilities					
£m					
149.3 Alliance	31.10.77	6.35	277.4	265.8	26.5
160.4 Capital and Nat	31.10.77	4.0	161.9	164.7	13.8
10.4 Cleverhous	31.10.77	3.0	100.0	104.1	10.0
10.7 Crossroads	31.10.77	3.0	100.0	106.7	10.0
1.1 Dundee & London	31.10.77	6.1	219.4	236.7	12.0
42.7 First Scottish	31.10.77	2.55	116.5	116.4	12.0
11.0 Grange	31.10.77	1.81	102.5	106.5	4.2
20.0 Great Northern	31.10.77	3.45	137.3	139.9	7.3
63 Guardian	31.10.77	2.38	106.9	111.4	1.0
67.4 Invest Trust Corp	31.10.77	5.915	258.8	260.7	25.8
75.5 Investors Capital	31.10.77	1.26	95.8	101.1	12.5
20.0 Jardine Lane	31.10.77	0.1	188.0	189.0	31.2
34.0 London & Holyrood	31.10.77	3.2	148.0	151.6	14.7
24.0 London & Montrose	31.10.77	5.25	241.8	245.9	25.6
45.5 London & Prov	31.10.77	3.0	141.6	144.1	18.1
102.1 Mercantile	31.10.77	0.95	95.0	95.3	1.8
10.0 New South Wales	31.10.77	14.60	577.50	583.00	22.10
8.1 S & P Linked	31.10.77	1.71	171.5	171.5	1.0
1.1 Scottish Northern	31.10.77	2.1	125.0	130.0	7.9
195.7 Scottish United	31.10.77	1.7	104.9	108.6	16.1
49.0 Second Alliance	31.10.77	5.65	236.5	244.8	23.0
4.0 Shires	31.10.77	4.65	226.6	229.0	22.8
26.1 Sterling	31.10.77	12.25	131.1	132.4	11.9
72.2 United British	31.10.77	40.975	160.9	162.2	161.6
70.7 U.S. and Gen	31.10.77	5.11	244.3	250.5	39.8
85.0 U.S. Debenture Corp	31.10.77	7.06	116.3	120.4	11.1
10.0 U.S. Debenture Corp	31.10.77	65.00	1129.50	1132.40	142.00
113.8 Scottish Mortgage	31.10.77	3.0	142.1	144.6	14.0
87.4 Edinb rth & Dundee	31.10.77	3.5	176.3	180.3	18.3
56.4 Monck & Prov	31.10.77	1.4	141.2	145.0	8.0
1.1 Winterbottom	31.10.77	3.75	247.3	250.9	26.0
26.8 Baring Bros	31.10.77	12.1	255.9	267.1	25.2
39.9 Tribune	31.10.77	12.1	894.5	906.1	114.7
43.7 East of Scotland Investment	31.10.77	4.65	179.7	189.2	13.5
15.6 American	31.10.77	1.2	55.9	58.1	3.6
58.4 Credit Japan	31.10.77	1.5	155.9	158.0	30.2

73.5	Electra	31.10.77	4.3	139.4	140.9	7.5
1.1	Globe	31.10.77	1.2	20.2	20.2	3.8
1.1	Imperial	31.10.77	0.8	20.2	20.2	3.8
36.7	Temple Bar	31.10.77	8.5	342.5	346.7	6.0
1.1	Temple Bar	31.10.77	55.15	138.00	140.00	53.40
1.1	F & G Group	31.10.77	55.00	110.10	110.10	22.60
18.9	Alliance	31.10.77	2.45	131.5	132.7	11.0
20.9	Cardinal	31.10.77	3.3	140.1	144.4	11.8
1.1	F & G Group	31.10.77	55.00	110.10	110.10	22.60
168.0	Farman & Colonial	31.10.77	2.9	260.0	212.0	22.8
28.1	General Investors	31.10.77	3.4	140.5	140.0	8.8
1.8	James Finlay Investment	31.10.77	1.3458	36.8	36.5	—
1.1	Provincial Cities	31.10.77	1.2	102.1	102.1	3.8
6.7	Alliance	31.10.77	7.2	102.1	102.1	3.8
24.3	Anglo-Scottish	31.10.77	1.6	57.6	60.1	3.5
25.8	English & Scottish	31.10.77	2.2	92.8	96.3	4.1
6.8	Group Investors	31.10.77	0.5	84.5	89.1	10.3
10.1	London & Holyrood	31.10.77	2.1	93.3	96.8	8.5
22.1	London & Holyrood	31.10.77	1.9	93.3	96.8	8.5
10.7	London & Holyrood	31.10.77	1.375	55.4	57.4	4.9
11.9	Midland	31.10.77	1.75	59.2	58.2	0.2
6.5	NY & Garlmere	31.10.77	0.3	34.5	34.5	1.8
71.2	Scottish	31.10.77	3.45	189.3	192.8	17.5
17.4	Glasgow Scottish	31.10.77	2.05	121.7	126.7	12.9
80.9	Border & Southern	31.10.77	7.5	366.7	389.9	33.1
36.7	Debenhams Corp	31.10.77	2.75	114.7	116.8	5.7
11.3	Debenhams Scottish	31.10.77	1.1	124.6	145.8	15.6
21.9	Gwynedd European	31.10.77	1.3	84.1	84.1	8.2
59.1	Lake View	31.10.77	2.1	120.2	122.9	10.3
10.7	Lake View	31.10.77	2.1	120.2	122.9	10.3
58.7	Stockholders	31.10.77	2.05	122.6	127.2	11.4
15.9	Berry	31.10.77	0.875	75.4	75.4	3.8
6.4	Northern Sea	31.10.77	3.0	147.1	151.0	10.8
13.7	G. T. Japan	31.10.77	1.9	144.6	144.6	29.5
10.7	G. T. Japan	31.10.77	1.9	144.6	144.6	29.5
23.8	Bantopag	31.10.77	5.25	245.5	254.9	10.5
46.4	Bantopag	31.10.77	3.9	87.2	90.5	1.1
46.4	Bantopag	31.10.77	3.25	124.1	131.3	6.4
46.4	Roadsmond	31.10.77	—	127.3	127.3	0.8
112.4	Witan	31.10.77	*1.8	112.3	117.7	9.5







**Wm Reed is  
now well  
on course**

Now that the management has been strengthened the board is confident that the benefits of the group's reorganization will ensure a marked improvement in profitability.

TPE Pension Trust, which holds and manages the investments of the pension fund of Trafford Park Estates, has made an offer for Grain Elevator Estate, other than the 12,260 shares, or 14.6 per cent, which are held by the trustees. It is offering cash for every Grain share. Trafford Park will accept for its 53.9 per cent holding in Grain. But, Mr C. Lavender, Grain's chairman, feels unable to recommend the offer but may recommend the offer but may wish to make up their own minds. The trustees have agreed to accept his holding of 1,900 shares "since no better offer is likely to be forthcoming".

The board of Levers Optical, based at Mount Pleasant in London, has asked for a temporary suspension of the listing pending a formal renewal of its banking facilities. The directors expect arrangements to be completed with the company's bankers within the next fortnight. After that, it will request restoration.

Following the announcement by Mr. Oliver Jessel that he has withdrawn his opposition to the bid by Maurice James Industries for George Doland, and is recommending Carel Trust to accept, Maurice James is extending the offer until December 13. This offer cannot be further extended unless permission is given by the Take-over Panel.

Down went profits in the year to June 30 last, but C. H. Beazer, the construction and property group, could be on the verge of better things. Turnover more than doubled from \$6.73m to £14.96m, but pre-tax profits fell from £82,500 to £10,000. However, shareholders will collect an unchanged total payment.

The board is confident that the results for the half-year to December 31 next will be at least equal to the similar period last year. Beazer's land bank is now sufficient to give rise to an increase in housing output with expansion through south-west England.

company at 72½ a share say they intend to protect minority and keep share listing. Mr S. E. Baucher and Mr E. A. Brian, the other directors, strongly advise shareholders to do nothing for the moment.

11 per cent p.a. over LIBOR for the first three years and 13 per cent p.a. over LIBOR for the last four years.

Rates	
ABN Bank .....	6 1/2%
Barclays Bank .....	6 1/2%
Consolidated Credits .....	6 1/2%
First London Secs .....	6 1/2%
C. Hoare & Co .....	*6 1/2%
Lloyds Bank .....	6 1/2%
London Mercantile .....	6 1/2%
Midland Bank .....	6 1/2%
Nat Westminster .....	6 1/2%
Rossminster Acc's .....	6 1/2%
Shenley Trust .....	8 1/2%
TSB .....	6 1/2%
Williams and Glyn's .....	6 1/2%

\* 7 day deposits on sums of £10,000 and under 3 1/2% up to £25,000, 4% over

**M. J. H. Nightingale & Co**  
62-63 Threadneedle Street, London E.C.2

[illegible]

New York, Nov. 18.—The New York stock market closed higher today.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 3.90 to 835.76. Advancing issues outnumbered decliners 805 to 583.

Volume totalled 23.93 million shares, compared with 25.11 million yesterday.

The market maintained about a four-point advance most of the day, falling somewhat below this during the last 45 minutes.

Analysts point to a favourable news background in explaining the gain.

New York, Nov. 18.—COLD weather, which has been threatening since the middle of the week, has finally arrived, and the thermometer has fallen to 10 below zero. The weather is very disagreeable, and the wind is very strong. The temperature is very low, and the wind is very strong. The temperature is very low, and the wind is very strong. The temperature is very low, and the wind is very strong.

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The dollar weakened throughout the day yesterday while sterling rose. The trade in gold was quiet, with trading from New York as operators took short positions in the currency before the weekend, the dollar said.

The yen closed stronger at 244.10 to the dollar compared with 243.40 at the finish on Thursday. The trading in gold was quiet, with trading at \$1,825.00 compared with \$1,819.50 on Thursday. The effective index went to 63.8 from 63.7 previously.

The market was relatively quiet with sterling rising on late buying in New York. Earlier the pound was underpinned by news of the sharp slowdown in yen demand for gold. The market firmed to 2.2405 from 2.2465 at the finish.

Gold gained \$2.25 an ounce to close in London at \$161.625.

	Last Price	Ch'ge	Open Drain	Yld %	P/E
44	+1	4.2	10.0	8.2	—
WLS	149	—	18.4	12.4	—
es	38	—	3.3	8.7	16.2
141	—	12.0	8.5	9.7	—
100	+2	5.1	5.1	—	—
LS	210	—	17.5	8.3	—
144	+3	11.5	11.0	6.1	—
106	+2	2.4	2.0	10.9	—
50xc	—	5.0	10.0	5.8	—
114	+1	5.0	5.0	10.4	—
337	—	27.0	8.0	5.7	—
72	—	12.0	16.6	—	—
64	+1	7.0	11.0	7.9	—
86	—	6.4	7.4	6.3	—

**WHEAT**—**CHICAGO**—**NOV.** 24—**NOV. 25**—**NOV. 26**—**NOV. 27**—**NOV. 28**—**NOV. 29**—**NOV. 30**—**DEC. 1**—**DEC. 2**—**DEC. 3**—**DEC. 4**—**DEC. 5**—**DEC. 6**—**DEC. 7**—**DEC. 8**—**DEC. 9**—**DEC. 10**—**DEC. 11**—**DEC. 12**—**DEC. 13**—**DEC. 14**—**DEC. 15**—**DEC. 16**—**DEC. 17**—**DEC. 18**—**DEC. 19**—**DEC. 20**—**DEC. 21**—**DEC. 22**—**DEC. 23**—**DEC. 24**—**DEC. 25**—**DEC. 26**—**DEC. 27**—**DEC. 28**—**DEC. 29**—**DEC. 30**—**DEC. 31**—**JAN. 1**—**JAN. 2**—**JAN. 3**—**JAN. 4**—**JAN. 5**—**JAN. 6**—**JAN. 7**—**JAN. 8**—**JAN. 9**—**JAN. 10**—**JAN. 11**—**JAN. 12**—**JAN. 13**—**JAN. 14**—**JAN. 15**—**JAN. 16**—**JAN. 17**—**JAN. 18**—**JAN. 19**—**JAN. 20**—**JAN. 21**—**JAN. 22**—**JAN. 23**—**JAN. 24**—**JAN. 25**—**JAN. 26**—**JAN. 27**—**JAN. 28**—**JAN. 29**—**JAN. 30**—**JAN. 31**—**FEB. 1**—**FEB. 2**—**FEB. 3**—**FEB. 4**—**FEB. 5**—**FEB. 6**—**FEB. 7**—**FEB. 8**—**FEB. 9**—**FEB. 10**—**FEB. 11**—**FEB. 12**—**FEB. 13**—**FEB. 14**—**FEB. 15**—**FEB. 16**—**FEB. 17**—**FEB. 18**—**FEB. 19**—**FEB. 20**—**FEB. 21**—**FEB. 22**—**FEB. 23**—**FEB. 24**—**FEB. 25**—**FEB. 26**—**FEB. 27**—**FEB. 28**—**FEB. 29**—**FEB. 30**—**MARCH 1**—**MARCH 2**—**MARCH 3**—**MARCH 4**—**MARCH 5**—**MARCH 6**—**MARCH 7**—**MARCH 8**—**MARCH 9**—**MARCH 10**—**MARCH 11**—**MARCH 12**—**MARCH 13**—**MARCH 14**—**MARCH 15**—**MARCH 16**—**MARCH 17**—**MARCH 18**—**MARCH 19**—**MARCH 20**—**MARCH 21**—**MARCH 22**—**MARCH 23**—**MARCH 24**—**MARCH 25**—**MARCH 26**—**MARCH 27**—**MARCH 28**—**MARCH 29**—**MARCH 30**—**MARCH 31**—**APRIL 1**—**APRIL 2**—**APRIL 3**—**APRIL 4**—**APRIL 5**—**APRIL 6**—**APRIL 7**—**APRIL 8**—**APRIL 9**—**APRIL 10**—**APRIL 11**—**APRIL 12**—**APRIL 13**—**APRIL 14**—**APRIL 15**—**APRIL 16**—**APRIL 17**—**APRIL 18**—**APRIL 19**—**APRIL 20**—**APRIL 21**—**APRIL 22**—**APRIL 23**—**APRIL 24**—**APRIL 25**—**APRIL 26**—**APRIL 27**—**APRIL 28**—**APRIL 29**—**APRIL 30**—**MAY 1**—**MAY 2**—**MAY 3**—**MAY 4**—**MAY 5**—**MAY 6**—**MAY 7**—**MAY 8**—**MAY 9**—**MAY 10**—**MAY 11**—**MAY 12**—**MAY 13**—**MAY 14**—**MAY 15**—**MAY 16**—**MAY 17**—**MAY 18**—**MAY 19**—**MAY 20**—**MAY 21**—**MAY 22**—**MAY 23**—**MAY 24**—**MAY 25**—**MAY 26**—**MAY 27**—**MAY 28**—**MAY 29**—**MAY 30**—**MAY 31**—**JUNE 1**—**JUNE 2**—**JUNE 3**—**JUNE 4**—**JUNE 5**—**JUNE 6**—**JUNE 7**—**JUNE 8**—**JUNE 9**—**JUNE 10**—**JUNE 11**—**JUNE 12**—**JUNE 13**—**JUNE 14**—**JUNE 15**—**JUNE 16**—**JUNE 17**—**JUNE 18**—**JUNE 19**—**JUNE 20**—**JUNE 21**—**JUNE 22**—**JUNE 23**—**JUNE 24**—**JUNE 25**—**JUNE 26**—**JUNE 27**—**JUNE 28**—**JUNE 29**—**JUNE 30**—**JULY 1**—**JULY 2**—**JULY 3**—**JULY 4**—**JULY 5**—**JULY 6**—**JULY 7**—**JULY 8**—**JULY 9**—**JULY 10**—**JULY 11**—**JULY 12**—**JULY 13**—**JULY 14**—**JULY 15**—**JULY 16**—**JULY 17**—**JULY 18**—**JULY 19**—**JULY 20**—**JULY 21**—**JULY 22**—**JULY 23**—**JULY 24**—**JULY 25**—**JULY 26**—**JULY 27**—**JULY 28**—**JULY 29**—**JULY 30**—**JULY 31**—**AUG. 1**—**AUG. 2**—**AUG. 3**—**AUG. 4**—**AUG. 5**—**AUG. 6**—**AUG. 7**—**AUG. 8**—**AUG. 9**—**AUG. 10**—**AUG. 11**—**AUG. 12**—**AUG. 13**—**AUG. 14**—**AUG. 15**—**AUG. 16**—**AUG. 17**—**AUG. 18**—**AUG. 19**—**AUG. 20**—**AUG. 21**—**AUG. 22**—**AUG. 23**—**AUG. 24**—**AUG. 25**—**AUG. 26**—**AUG. 27**—**AUG. 28**—**AUG. 29**—**AUG. 30**—**AUG. 31**—**SEPT. 1**—**SEPT. 2**—**SEPT. 3**—**SEPT. 4**—**SEPT. 5**—**SEPT. 6**—**SEPT. 7**—**SEPT. 8**—**SEPT. 9**—**SEPT. 10**—**SEPT. 11**—**SEPT. 12**—**SEPT. 13**—**SEPT. 14**—**SEPT. 15**—**SEPT. 16**—**SEPT. 17**—**SEPT. 18**—**SEPT. 19**—**SEPT. 20**—**SEPT. 21**—**SEPT. 22**—**SEPT. 23**—**SEPT. 24**—**SEPT. 25**—**SEPT. 26**—**SEPT. 27**—**SEPT. 28**—**SEPT. 29**—**SEPT. 30**—**SEPT. 31**—**OCT. 1**—**OCT. 2**—**OCT. 3**—**OCT. 4**—**OCT. 5**—**OCT. 6**—**OCT. 7**—**OCT. 8**—**OCT. 9**—**OCT. 10**—**OCT. 11**—**OCT. 12**—**OCT. 13**—**OCT. 14**—**OCT. 15**—**OCT. 16**—**OCT. 17**—**OCT. 18**—**OCT. 19**—**OCT. 20**—**OCT. 21**—**OCT. 22**—**OCT. 23**—**OCT. 24**—**OCT. 25**—**OCT. 26**—**OCT. 27**—**OCT. 28**—**OCT. 29**—**OCT. 30**—**OCT. 31**—**NOV. 1**—**NOV. 2**—**NOV. 3**—**NOV. 4**—**NOV. 5**

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	1984	1985	1986	1987
New York	21,815,000	21,815,000	21,815,000	21,815,000
Montreal	22,010,000	22,010,000	22,010,000	22,010,000
Quebec	22,010,000	22,010,000	22,010,000	22,010,000
Branco	66,400,000	66,400,000	66,400,000	66,400,000
London	11,120,000	11,120,000	11,120,000	11,120,000
Frankfurt	4,070,000,000	4,070,000,000	4,070,000,000	4,070,000,000
Paris	1,120,000	1,120,000	1,120,000	1,120,000
Madrid	150,900,000	150,900,000	150,900,000	150,900,000
Amsterdam	1,120,000	1,120,000	1,120,000	1,120,000
Geneva	1,120,000	1,120,000	1,120,000	1,120,000
Italy	9,940,000	9,940,000	9,940,000	9,940,000
Brussels	1,120,000	1,120,000	1,120,000	1,120,000
Belgium	9,940,000	9,940,000	9,940,000	9,940,000
Switzerland	9,940,000	9,940,000	9,940,000	9,940,000
Vienna	29,000,000	29,000,000	29,000,000	29,000,000
Zurich	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000	4,000,000
Effective exchange rate	1.00	1.00	1.00	1.00

1 month		3 months		Rates	
New York	100.0000	100.0000	Bank of England Monthly Lending Rate 5%		
San Francisco	99.9500 disc	100.0000	(London Bank Rate) 4 1/2%		
London	100.0000	100.0000	Weekend Bank Rate 4 1/2%		
Paris	100.0000	100.0000	Lowest 1/2% Bank Rate		
Madrid	99.9000 disc	100.0000			
Amsterdam	100.0000	100.0000			
Frankfurt	100.0000	100.0000			
Geneva	100.0000	100.0000			
Brussels	100.0000	100.0000			
Stockholm	100.0000	100.0000			
Copenhagen	100.0000	100.0000			
Oslo	100.0000	100.0000			
Stockholm	100.0000	100.0000			
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Gold fixed: am. \$160.20 an ounce, pto. \$160.85.	3 months 54-3	18 months 54-8 1/2
Kruggerand (per coin): non-resident, \$163-167 1/2 (181-192); resident, \$163-167 1/2 (181-192).	4 months 54-3	24 months 54-8 1/2
Sovereigns (per oz): non-resident, \$47-48 1/2 (46-47 1/2); resident, \$47-48 1/2 (46-47 1/2).	5 months 54-5	12 months 54-4 1/2
	6 months 54-5	24 months 54-4 1/2

Secondary Mkt. FCD Rates:			
1 month	54-4 1/2	6 months	54-8 1/2
2 months	54-4 1/2	12 months	54-8 1/2

Credit ran to surplus in the discount market yesterday, and the authorities mopped up on a small scale selling Treasury bills directly to the houses. This took out only part of the surplus. Leaving money to go out in the form of the day, when houses were able to rule off for the week with balances taken in the range of 100 to 150 million. It was initially seen at 1/2 per cent but		<table border="1"> <tr> <td>1 month</td> <td>1 1/2</td> <td>1 year</td> <td>6 1/2</td> </tr> </table>		1 month	1 1/2	1 year	6 1/2																				
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## Active shipping sector

5 Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days



















## Weekend

## SHOPAROUND

Sheila Black

Three more catalogues for mail order shopping although some of the toys in one or two of them are also in shops and stores. Beaver Toys are more or less handmade, certainly made by craftsmen and their refund-if-not-satisfied service always works. However, the best thing about them is the understanding of the children and the careful combination of components for toys that will really make infants busy from babyhood to about seven or eight years old. Busybaby is an ingenious rattle, mirror and button-pressing concoction that looks as if it owes much to Heath Robinson but is really first class reaching for babies of six months and upwards. A little rocking horse is £8.94 and a delightful theatre is £3.68. Magnetic slates that take shapes, a toybench that is a real workmate for under-sixes, soft building blocks, and a strong lined cloth to sweep the lot up in are all very good value. Beaver Toys caters for potential engineers, builders and craftsmen of various kinds as well as offering some garden games like very cheap badminton at £7.18 or badminton at £15.98. Beaver Toys is at Marl-

borough, Wiltshire. Catalogue 15p. John Adams sells only sturdy toys, the first loom chosen and praised by our panel of children last week. The Adams cookbooks with miniature rolling pin, and things like bubble-makers, string games and a book on shadows-on-the-wall pictures to make with their own bare hands. A pack of marbles, necklace sets, tiny dolls and rag dolls are all appealing. His sturdy roadside garage has underground car park and is great fun. I remember a seven-year-old grandson praising it because you could climb on it and stand there "and the same garage has survived seven years of him and his younger brother doing just that. John Adams' Toys markets quite a number of quality toys from other manufacturers to span most ages and tastes, all from British firms and mostly approved by the Design Council. The Adams Toy Survey is in Crazies Hill, Wargrave, Berkshire (tel: Wargrave 3480). A really good stock of John Adams' fine range is at Peter Knight shops in Essex, Surrey, and Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire. They will mail as well as

serve personal shoppers—tel: Esler 64122 or Beaconsfield 5561/4. Offspring concentrates on teaching toys, one of the best of which is a bag of wooden bricks in different shapes but all to scale. Make columns, cloisters, pillars, houses, castles and churches, and all for £8.50, which may sound a lot, but they will last for ever and the sturdy kitbag is useful either to hold the bricks or take in school with books and things. Reading and numbers games, junior Scrabble, young jigsaws, recipes, fruit or savoury, aprons and non-spill mugs are among a host of things in a packed glossy catalogue you will want to keep all year round for reference whenever you need toys and sensible construction kits. The Atoplast modelling clay is very clean to use and 75p of the stuff will keep a young child happy for a long time. A decent recorder at £1.99 is good, an original stacking hamster cage is expensive but lasting and boxed games run to a large selection. Catalogue from Offspring, E. J. Arnold and Son, Butterley Street, Leeds LS10 3TS.

Last year my guinea-pig children and I put skateboards as our toys of the year and were actually able to find some at around £7. Now they seem to be £15 and upwards but there are some exceptions. Phillips, at the corner of Tottenham Court Road and Hurland Street, had some at £9.50 early this week but I have not been able to go in to try them out as I was late for an appointment. I would say at this point that the costlier skateboards are probably better boards and am not knocking £15 but was delighted to hear that, from the end of this month, Woolworth will be selling good skateboards from £10.99. This is great value. In larger stores and Woolco branches.

Again, I have not been able to get them tried out but have come to trust so much of Woolworth's merchandise recently that I feel confident about recommending them. They have diecast aluminium trucks, rubber suspension and brilliant red tough composition wheels with double ball bearings for smooth speed plus a good width to ensure stability. It has the kick-tail back and which, I am assured, makes it infinitely manoeuvrable and makes skating on the flat or very gentle slopes possible—the "old-fashioned" variety need slopes and do not turn well, as I am informed by my teenage grandchildren, who have become highly proficient. Skateboarding is a 32-year-old sport, started in the sea-surfing areas of California and designed and made by youthful Americans who resented having to walk when they came ashore so that the original name was "Side-walk Surfers". In those days, lengths of wood or driftwood were attached to roller skates. Now with the kicktail, skateboarders split through 180 and 360 degrees. And all for £10.99.

Many a skate park, rightly, refuses admittance unless skaters wear protective helmets and pads and quite right too—although even that adds to the cost of kitting out initially. The excellent offer of The Sunday Times early this year was a sell-out but Woolworth are doing the protectors at roughly the same price now. Generously padded knee and elbow protectors are in a moulded exterior of strong white plastic and all the pads are elasticated for extra security. The helmet is bright yellow plastic, lined with protective foam and almost a steal for £3.99, which compensates for the pads at £4.99 for elbows and £5.49 for knees, costly but better than damaged limbs. Most skateboarders wear track shoes but special skateboard footwear is making its appearance in a number of shops, again at rather higher prices than at Woolworth, where the sturdy, canvas boots, especially designed to combine freedom and support are £3.49 for sizes 13 to 5 or £3.99 for sizes 6 to 10 in yellow, black or blue canvas for the smaller sizes but in black or blue only for the larger and let's hope that is not

an omen. I am going for a black pair myself—ask for Skateboard shoes and for Lotus Kicktail skateboards (23 inches long). Please encourage a slow start with young skaters. At the beginning it is better to scoot on a flat surface than to start downhill racing. Place the feet at an angle of about 45 degrees diagonally across the board, bend the knees, put the weight on the front foot and scoot along, before getting both feet off the ground on to the board. Learn to turn, then find your hill. Skateboards, components for assembling your own (but only if your experience is such that it is safe), books and magazines on the sport are plentiful at Alpine Sports, 5/12 Holborn, London, EC1. They are opposite the large, red Prudential insurance building and they do lists for mailing. Personal shopping here and two other London shops plus one in Brighton. Hamleys Sport and Leisure Centre in Wimpole Street, where it joins Welbeck Street, London, W1, has a skateboard area staffed by people who know how to do it and there are some kits at the toyshop in Regent Street too.

By the way, when you go to Woolworth for your skateboard, aim at buying toys too. They have most leading chess rivaling our children's favourites like the potter's wheel, chemistry sets, pin pictures, cross stitch and cotton crafts kits, all at good prices. One of my per games of last year, the MB Newsweek for pretend journalists who actually do get their papers out, is wonderful value at £3.99 and my family of editors did a pretty good job with their front pages, story cards, telex machine and tape. The slightest sad element is that the red, yellow, blue and green plastic reporters are described as pawns... but maybe that is not far wrong. The MB toys are a good range including a telephone that really rings and takes discs in the Playkool range; the still-loved ship in a bottle kit, a very good chess set for one or two players and others. Find many at Woolworth and leading shops and stores (at Debenhams and Selfridges, for example) or about a good range of retailers about Milton Bradley, Century House, 61/63 Uxbridge Road, Ealing, London W5 5SA.



The Maclaren Lie-back Buggy has had its fair share of publicity—fair because it deserved all it got. I waited until it had been well and truly tried out to pass on this personal impression. My young lady went to the factory and was impressed by how happy everyone was, which leads not only to good productivity (and reasonable value) but to quality workmanship. She admired the rigid testing systems and the new double wheels they have invented for infant safety and comfort and she liked the fact that toddlers need no longer fall asleep with their heads lolling loosely on an unsupporting shoulder. She did her research, too, by asking some 30 mothers their views and found the buggy in favour with them all. She even walked her own niece all round Norwich on the cobbled streets and busy pavements and was delighted with the steadiness of the buggy, envying the resting child as her own feet grew wearier. She adds that she hopes to be a mum herself in a year or nearly so and intends to buy one at the right time. She wound up by saying she actually agreed with all the claims made for it by Owen Maclaren, a sprightly 71-year-

old who pioneered the lightweight folding pushchair some 10 years old. The lie-back buggy is for longer expeditions on a sturdy frame that takes not only the seating-reclining material but also has a pocket for the hood-end-apron complete with transparent panel to give the infant its own wind-shield in the rain. It has balloon foam tyres, as soft as pneumatic ones but needing no attention. The reclining seat has removable stiffeners, double locking devices and easily operated catches that are nevertheless childproof, and side panels that act as windshields, all in the colourful candy stripes that Maclaren addicts already know and love. The price, including V.A.T., is £26.50 (hood-apron an optional extra at £1.50). You consider that a child could be taken straight from carrycot stage to this lie-back, that is not bad. Obviously you need a pram if you have no other transport for your own feet. But you can buy the pram buggy, a folding transporter that weighs only 14lb. Believe it or not, the lie-back buggy weighs a mere 7lb. The original baby buggy was developed for the Maclaren grandchild and is still a marvellous lightweight folding pushchair; it spawned the twin and triplet buggies, the pram buggy that converts to the baby buggy when needed, and the lie-back. A great little range with wide distribution enquires to Andrews Maclaren, Station Works, Long Buckby, Northampton, NN6 7PF (Long Buckby 842662). Jackie's final words are the bigger buggies are ideal for handicapped or disabled people up to the ages of 18 or 20 years old, a lot better than a bulky wheelchair since they all fold so easily and compactly. They are often on prescription, to physically or mentally handicapped youngsters as well as being available privately. You will find the manufacturers more than helpful.



Spencer—but I do not personally find them more than that since both miss that touch of flair which even children's clothes ought to have. Children seem to want to live in track shoes or other canvas shoes and socks, the better, especially when they are short boots. If they must wear them it is a good idea to buy some of the costlier ones with the very thick, supporting soles and a good range of laces. Dynamic, with the word written on the side in blue and red letters, is a lace-up with good support just below the ankles, along the side of the shoe and is cost £4.49 in the Superkids range on sale at most shops where Clerk's famous shoes are sold. Tough Guy is a simpler but smart design, in various blues with white or brown and white trim, sold in the Superkids range at £5.49. Or £5.99 according to sizes up to "adult" 5½ or £3.49 in the half-pint sizes for the fives and under. Fast Track is a real track shoe in blue or red with suede or grey and white. Rough Neck looks rather like the co-representatives shoes of the thirties. Hi Scorer has deep soles (£4.99). The outright winner, according to the children who tested for us, and coveted by many young ladies in the office, is the Bin Shot II, covered with camouflage in the familiar greens and yellows. Heavy tread rubber soles, cotton linings, padded top and thickly rolled edges, it is comfortable and durable at £5.99 up to size 11 or £6.49 up to 5½ (no half-pint sizes for this one). The tocap is a smooth finish. You can buy this shoe in denim blue but it is the camouflage that everyone admired here. All these and more are in half sizes which is rare for this type of footwear. The high, padded backs, the long, cushioned tongues, reinforced eyelets, extra strong laces and stitching, safe non-slip sole and steel-shanked, cushioned arch support make these colourful canvas shoes as good for their growing feet as shoe-type footwear. You should find them at stockists of Clerk's shoes, as I said, but you could find out your local from Jill Grimble, Superkids, Box 126, 40 High Street, Street, Somerset BA16 0YA (Tel Street 4311). If you see a stamped, self-addressed envelope measuring 12in by 8½in you can have a colourful catalogue of them.



Children may not welcome clothes for Christmas as long as they are standard gear like school clothes or everyday wear. But special outfits, like tracksuits, extra-special jeans, a long dress or an extra-velvety bolero or jacket—this is the kind of thing they love to get once they reach nine or 10 years old. For ordinary day clothes, it is very useful to have Polly-

anna's catalogue beside you. Shown here is an excellent unisex hooded raincoat, worn in this instance by a boy but beloved by girls. It is coat length, with a generously long sleeve, made of rubberized rayon in a mustard yellow that reverses to a navy blue rayon. Stud fastenings on hood and sleeves add to its protective qualities and you will find it waterproof. Good value at £6, £6.50 or £7 accord-

ing to size and my one complaint is that it is made to fit children only between two and 12 years old. Nice deep pockets for glove-lovers are a good idea. The girl wears a really demure and quaint pinafore dress with gathers from the frilled-edge yoke. In woven tartan of brushed-finish. Acrylic, it is warm, practicable and can be worn with party blouses or warm sweaters, and Pollyanna

has both. It is in a black/bottle-red tartan or a plain bottle-and-red in sizes from 38in to 58in, again from £6/7/50. Rather charming, but not necessarily likely to appeal to all little girls, is the plain white Polyester petticoat with broderie anglaise edging. Very Victorian, it is designed to show just about four inches below the hem. There are both charming and

practical things in Pollyanna's catalogue and personal shop piers are welcome at their shop at 311 Fulham Road, London SW6 5HG. Some of the larger Boots shops with children's gear have some good duffle coats and there are a number of specialist shops that are, in my view, terribly expensive. Mothercare is wonderful, serviceable and good value—as are Marks and

Horse-mad children are easy to cater for but not always easy to buy for since pony shops are found mainly in horsey areas. Swallow Horse-toys cater for pony-mad people who cannot own their own ponies but like the accessories to decorate their rooms. Books on ponies, a whole series of miniature models and accessories, including some in leather, are at low prices and would be highly original. The dream ponies, of rough plastic, have real manes and tails to groom with scissors, to wash, to plait and to love. The address is Swallow Horse-toys, Spring Farm, Stratford St Mary, Colchester, Essex (Higham 259). Please send a stamped self-addressed envelope for this little leaflet. Living Art is at 35 Kenway Road, a dear little shop between Earls Court Road and Knights-borough Place, usually under-parked. It has a lot of ethnic and quality pottery, herb bags, cushions, quilts, basketry and gifts but it has a mass of good toys, stacking fillers, and children's things too. Tel 01-370 2766. Party-mad sells paper hats, streamers, blowers, balloons and all as well as the whole spectrum of tablecloths, pretty paper tableware and everything you might want for old and young parties. Leaflets or personal shopping at 67 Gloucester Avenue, London, NW1 (01-586 0169). Send aae.

An old favourite of mine for named towels and bathrobes has just introduced towelling bathrobes for children from four to about 12½ years old. Prices are from £9.50 up to £13.25 according to size which is not so bad since you can buy this kind of garment overseas so that they can be worn for years. They hardly ever wear out. Adult robes are £17.75 for the shortie and £22.50 for the long one, postage included. The address is Barlow Associates, Direct Sales Office, Williams and Glyn's Bank Chambers, Adlington, Chorley PR7 4EZ (Adlington 48166). The name or initials are embroidered on one side of the chest.

## The Times Special Offer

Imagine buying yourself an heirloom that you can enjoy to the full as long as you live. A piece that is quality through and through, a piece to be proud of and a piece that is so heavy that anyone who handles it will know instantly that it is a superb piece. This particular heirloom is a tantalus, about 12in high, of pure hand-polished mahogany, solid and matt but rich in colour. The frame is held firmly but gracefully with silver-plated metal brackets, a phrase far too mundane for the attractive appearance. A bold but good-looking functional lock with a silver-plated bar that has to be unlocked to free the decanters that hold the precious liquids. Within the mahogany frame are two lead crystal decanters, also heavy with quality, made of the best Portuguese 30 per cent hand-cut crystal. The silver-plated bar that locks them in across the top of the tantalus

and the silver-plated handle gleam invitingly, as though to argue with the lock that keeps the liquor out of reach. This glorious decanter stand has been made since the 1880s, by a company which has dealt in marble onyx and precious metals since 1685, a firm which celebrated 250 years of trading at the time of George V's silver jubilee in 1935. There have been many changes, many mergers, many products but one of the executives who moved in during 1685, with his well-known ivory scurf combs, still had a descendant on the board in 1935—one Dennis Bowers. In 1939 the company of Pudefoot, Bowers, Simonett, now concentrating chiefly on quality wood products and no ivory, joined with John Berjean and has grown much since, besides keeping quality and crafts alive. In Bethnal Green they still produce fine onyx gifts and this tantalus, offered at a special

price. The name tantalus was taken from King Tantalus, mythical ruler of Phrygia and one of Zeus's many, many sons. He revealed the secrets of the gods and was condemned to stand for life immersed up to the chin in water. Fruit clusters were hung near his lips but every time he tried to reach them or to drink fresh water both receded beyond his reach. Thus we also got tantalizing. In Victorian and Edwardian times, the tantalus locked temptation away from servants and ensured the sobriety of the young. Today it is a thing of beauty, a piece of history, a tradition although, with prices as they are, the security factor is again important. You know you are buying well when you buy from a firm that has survived 15 reigns (16 if one counts Edward VII) and has not only kept its reputation but enhanced it.

Please complete coupon carefully. U.K. addressees only. Normal delivery within 28 days of receipt of order. Inquiries to Christine Westwood at Selective Marketplace Limited, 01-637 7951.

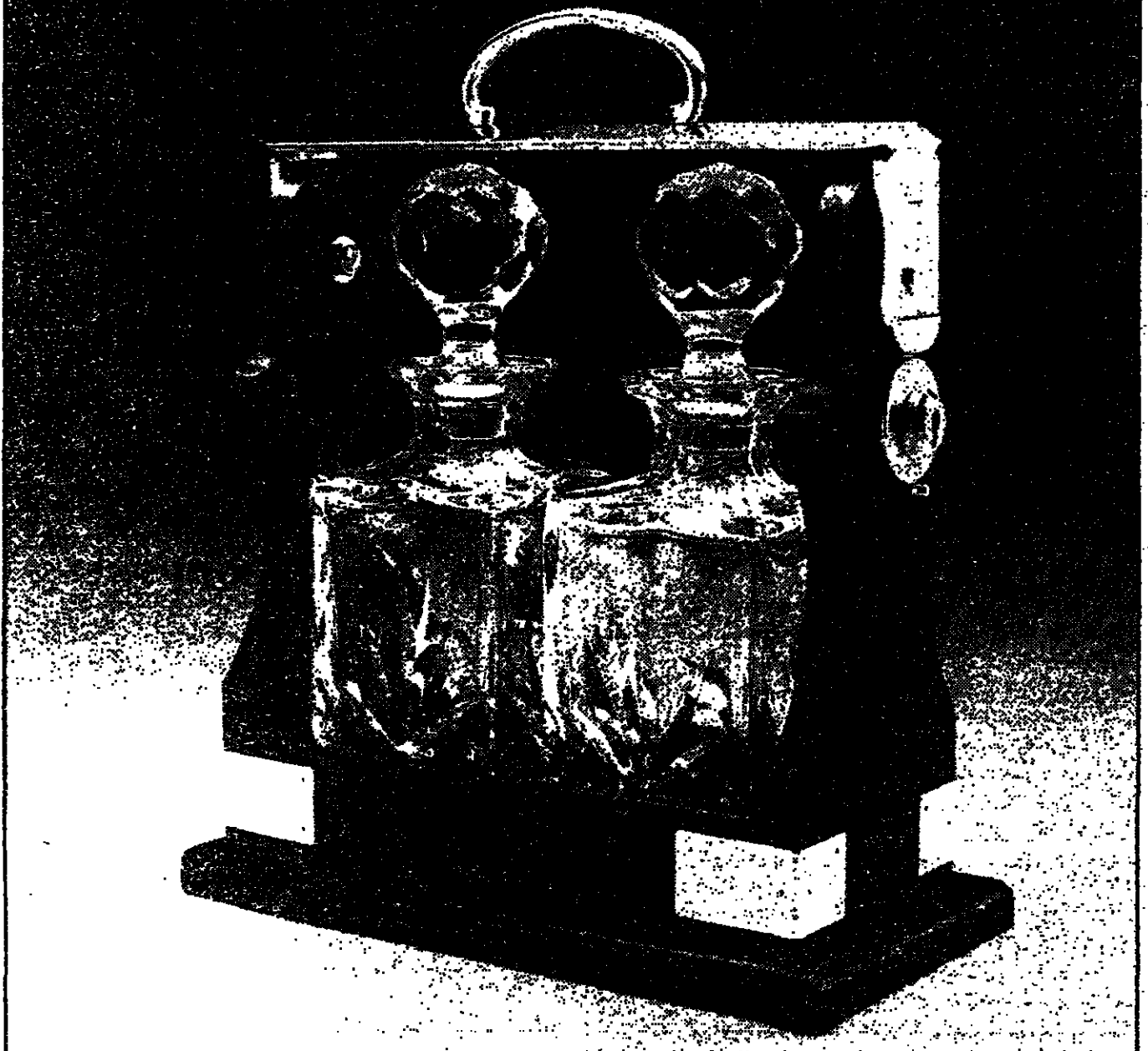
Send to: Tantalus Offer, Selective Marketplace Limited, 18 Ogile Street, London W1P 7LG.

I would like ..... Tantalus(s) at £150 each, and my cheque for £..... made payable to Selective Marketplace Limited is enclosed. (Please put name and address on back of cheque.)

Name .....

Address .....

Collective Marketplace Ltd., 18 Ogile Street, London W1P 7LG. Tel: 01-637 7951.



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